

VOLUME

NO. 3

9-2-85

-TO-

10-28-85

CAPE GASPE, QUÉBEC
TO
OCRAOKE ISLAND, N.C.



**Narrow Ruled
Eye-Ease® Paper
Single Subject**

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33-002

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BOOKS IVE READ

1. THE HITCHHIKERS' GUIDE TO THE GALAXY
2. ALL CREATURES GREAT & SMALL
3. EARLY ASIMOV: PT II
4. ALL THINGS BRIGHT & BEAUTIFUL
5. CONFESS, FLETCH!
6. ALL THINGS WISE & WONDERFUL
7. THE LORD GOD MADE THEM ALL
8. ALIVE! THE STORY OF THE ANDES SURVIVORS
9. THE SIGNET CLASSIC BOOK OF AM. SHORT STORIES
10. THE BRENDAN VOYAGE
11. EVERYMAN'S GUIDE TO ECOLOGICAL LIVING
12. THE GOOD EARTH
13. THE MAN WHO WALKED THROUGH TIME
14. THE INCREDIBLE VOYAGE
15. SOUL MATES
- 16.
- 17.
- 18.
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- 20.
- 21.
- 22.
- 23.
- 24.

6130

9-2-85

40 mi

103

6170

ABOUT THE TIME I WAS GETTING READY TO TURN IN FROM MY PICNIC TABLE LAST NIGHT I NOTICED MY SLEEPING BAG WAS CONSTANTLY TRYING TO HOP OFF ~~THE~~ OF IT. THAT'S WHEN I NOTICED THAT THE WIND HAD STARTED BLOWING FROM THE SOUTH & CLOUDS WERE MOVING IN.

MY FIRST THOUGHT WAS THAT RAIN WAS COMING, & I DIDN'T HESITATE TO SET MY TENT UP IMMEDIATELY. IT HASN'T RAINED YET, BUT THE WIND HAS BEEN BLASTING THROUGH HERE ALL NIGHT. AT TIMES IT FEELS AS THOUGH THE TENT WOULD BE BLOWN AWAY IN AN INSTANT IF I WEREN'T INSIDE - HOLDING IT DOWN.

I SLEPT FITFULLY, IF AT ALL. THE TENT HAS BEEN MAKING ONE HELL OF A RACKET BEING WHIPPED AROUND IN THE ~~THE~~ WIND. AND IF THE NOISE DOESN'T KEEP ME AWAKE, THEN A BLAST OF COLD AIR WHISTLES THROUGH TO JERK ME BACK INTO CONSCIOUSNESS.

IT'S A GOOD THING IT STARTED BLOWING BEFORE I WAS IN BED, OTHERWISE ABOUT HALF OF MY STUFF WOULD HAVE BLOWN ALL OVER HELL, & WOULD PROBABLY BE FLOATIN' IN THE BAY RIGHT NOW.

(6170) 103

I CERTAINLY DID A LOT TO PSYCHE MYSELF OUT & MAKE THIS A BAD DAY, BUT MY EFFORTS FELL SHORT: IT'S BEEN A PRETTY GOOD DAY.

IT SEEMS AS THOUGH THE BULK OF THE WIND I EXPERIENCED AT LAST NIGHT'S CAMPSITE WAS DUE MORE TO MY LOCATION (IN A COVE AT THE BASE OF A VALLEY) THAN THE WEATHER, THOUGH THE WEATHER HAD ITS PART IN IT.

I FINALLY FOUND THE EXEMPTION TO HEAD OUT AT AROUND 10:30 & FOUND THE WINDS LIGHTER AS SOON AS I GOT OUT OF THE VALLEY, BUT THE HILLS MORE THAN COMPENSATE FOR THE LACK OF WIND BY BEING STEEPER THAN USUAL.

ANYWAY, AFTER LOTS OF HILLS & QUANT LITTLE SEASIDE VILLAGES I SEEM TO HAVE FOUND WHAT EVERY BODY THINKS IS SO GREAT ABOUT "LA GASPÉSIE": FOR-ILLON PARK. IT'S OFF SEASON NOW SO I'M CAMPING FOR FREE AT PETIT GASPE CAMPGROUND (NEAR CAP-AUX-OS) & THAT INCLUDES A SHOWER & IT'S LEGAL!

I GUESS THE AREA I'M IN RIGHT NOW

104 (6175)

IS INCREDIBLY BEAUTIFUL, THOUGH I HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO SEE FOR MYSELF AS I ARRIVED LATE IN THE DAY. I'M CONSIDERING TAKING A DAY OFF & RESTING & TAKING ADVANTAGE OF AN EXCELLENT SITUATION.

I'M THINKING OF GOING HIKING EARLY IN THE MORNING & THEN GOING INTO TOWN BEFORE NOON TO GET RESUPPLIED (I LOST MY SOAP ^{while} IN THE SHOWER RIGHT AFTER I ~~jumped in~~ ^{jumped in}). THAT WOULD GIVE ME TIME TO DO MY HOUSEKEEPING CHORES & STILL DO SOME MORE LOOKING AROUND IN THE EVENING.

A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF THE PEOPLE HERE SPEAK ENGLISH, SO I'LL SEE IF I CAN LATCH ON TO SOME OF THEM FOR COMPANY TONIGHT - THERE'S NOTHING WORSE THAN BEING ALONE IN A CROWDED CAMPGROUND.

(9-3-85)

(5mi)

IT'S BEEN ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL MORNING, THOUGH THERE'S A THREAT OF ANOTHER STORM LETTING LOOSE THIS AFTERNOON.

I WENT FOR A SIX MILE HIKE AROUND MONT. ST. ALBAN THIS MORNING. THE CHANGE WAS REFRESHING & MY LEGS & FEET FEEL

(675) 104

FINE, THOUGH I THOUGHT THE CHANGE MAY BE HARD ON THEM. I WENT FROM SEA LEVEL UP TO AROUND 1250'.

THE NORTH SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN WAS PRETTY SPECTACULAR. THE TRAIL MORE OR LESS FOLLOWED THE CLIFFS WHICH DOMINATE THAT SIDE OF THE PENINSULA. THE VIEWS WERE GREAT! ESPECIALLY WITH THE SUN COVERED BY PARTLY CLOUDY SKIES, & REFLECTING OFF THE OCEAN. I ONLY HOPE MY PICTURES TURN OUT.

I ALSO WENT FOR A SHORT HIKE ALONG THE BEACH & I'VE FOUND AN EXCELLENT SPOT TO PHOTOGRAPH THE SUNSET IF IT DOESN'T CLOUD UP TOO MUCH THIS AFTERNOON.

I THINK I'LL CONCENTRATE MY IMMEDIATE EFFORTS ON TRYING TO FIND A RIDE INTO TOWN FOR GRUB, & SUCH. IF I DON'T SUCCEED I'LL HAVE TO RIDE OUT THERE IN A COUPLE OF HOURS.

NO LUCK FINDING A RIDE INTO TOWN TODAY, SO I PEDALLED ~~OUT~~ INSTEAD. ASIDE FROM GETTING SOME DECENT FOOD TO EAT, MY MAIN MISSION WAS TO BUY SOME SOAP AS MINE

104 (675)

DISAPPEARED BETWEEN THE FLOORBOARDS OF THE SHOWER YESTERDAY, BUT I FAILED. IT'S A BURN THAT I GET A FREE SHOWER TWO DAYS IN A ROW & DON'T HAVE ANY SOAP TO GO WITH IT. STILL, EVEN IF I DON'T SMELL ANY BETTER I DO FEEL MUCH BETTER FOR GETTING WET WITH SOME HOT WATER FOR A CHANGE.

NOTHING HAS HAPPENED TO SPEAK OF THIS AFTERNOON, THOUGH I THOROUGHLY ENJOYED STUFFING MYSELF WITH HOT SOUP, COLD BEER, CHEDDAR CHEESE, BANANAS & JELLY ROLLS FOR DINNER. I THINK AS SOON AS I LEAVE FRENCH SPEAKING CANADA THAT I'LL TREAT MYSELF OUT TO A NIGHT IN A RESTAURANT.

I WAS A FEW MINUTES TOO LATE TO GET A SHOT OF THE SUNSET TONIGHT, BUT I MET A GUY FROM BOSTON THAT I WISH I'D MET LAST NIGHT. HE WAS TRAVELLING ALONE & DID SOME HIKING TODAY IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE ~~TRAIL~~^{CAPE} THAN I DID, BUT I'M SURE WE COULD HAVE FOUND SOME TRAILS THAT WE BOTH WOULD HAVE WANTED TO TRY.

6285

105

9-4-85

110mi

I CRANKED UP MY CADENCE & GOT AN EARLY START & SINCE THE HILLS HAVE FLATTENED OUT SOMEWHAT I'VE MANAGED TO DO 110 MILES IN LESS THAN 10 HRS - NOT TOO SHABBY.

THE ONLY THING I MISSED TO DAY WORTH SEEING WAS PERCE' WHICH HAS SOME RED CLIFFS & A ROCK SITTING OFF SHORE. I'M SURE IT WOULD'VE BEEN NICE, BUT I DIDN'T LIKE THE LOOK OF THE HILLS I WOULD'VE CLIMBED IF I WENT THERE. I'M GLAD I TOOK THE SHORTCUT.

BOY, DO I STINK! BUT I'LL BE PASSING A REST AREA TOMORROW WHERE I CAN SPONGE BATHE WITH THE SOAP I PICKED UP TODAY. I'M HOPING TO GET A HOT SHOWER AT KOUCHIBOUGUAC NAT'L PARK IN NEW BRUNSWICK IN THREE DAYS.

I MET A GUY FROM TORONTO TODAY WHO OFFERED TO BUY ME A BEER AT HIS AUBERGE (HOTEL) AFTER I TOLD HIM ABOUT MY TRIP SO FAR. BUT IT WAS ONLY NOON SO I HAD TO DECLINE.

I'M CAMPING ILLEGALLY AGAIN (ON PRIVATE

106

6370

PROPERTY) ATOP A HILL IN AN OPEN FIELD ABOVE ANGE AUX GASCONS. I ONLY HOPE I'M LEFT ALONE AS I'M TOO TIRED TO TAKE DOWN MY TENT & FIND ANOTHER SPOT.

9-5-85

85mi

ANOTHER RELATIVELY EASY DAY OF RIDING. NOTHING SPECTACULAR OR, FOR THAT MATTER, OF ANY REAL INTEREST AT ALL HAPPENED TODAY. IT WAS A BIT WARMER THAN IT'S BEEN FOR A FEW DAYS NOW.

I MANAGED TO STOP NEAR NEW RICHMOND & HAVE A SPONGE BATH & WASH OUT ONE SET OF CLOTHES. I'M NOW WEARING CLOTHES THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN WASHED BEFORE LEAVING CAPE GASPE BECAUSE THEY MUST SMELL BETTER THAN THE CLOTHES I WAS WEARING. BOY, DID I STINK! I COULD SMELL MYSELF EVEN WHILE RIDING IF THE WIND WAS AT MY BACK - THAT'S BAD! I HAD TO WASH MY ARMPITS OUT THREE TIMES & IT STILL SMELLS A BIT - AT LEAST I CAN STAND IT NOW.

I FOUND OUT WHEN I GOT TO NOUVELLE THAT THE FERRY BETWEEN MINGUASHIA & DALLHOUSIE NO LONGER OPERATES, SO I'LL HAVE TO CYCLE AN EXTRA 30 MILES THAT

6460

107

I HADN'T PLANNED ON, BUT I DON'T THINK IT'LL MESS UP MY SCHEDULE TOO BAD.

I'VE FOUND A PLACE TO CAMP A MILE OR TWO WEST OF NOUVELLE ACROSS A STREAM FROM A REST AREA - IT'S GREAT TO HAVE A TOILET CLOSE AT HAND.

IN THE LAST TEN MILES ORSO I'VE ENCOUNTERED A LOT OF PESKY, PERSISTENT LITTLE BLACK FLIES. WHENEVER YOU STOP, THEY SWARM ALL OVER YOU. I JUST HOPE THAT I WON'T FIND THEM ANYWHERE ELSE I GO, BUT WHO KNOWS?

9.6.85

90mi

I'M OUT OF QUEBEC AT LAST. HURRAY!

JUST TO SHOW THAT I WAS GLAD TO LEAVE, I MADE IT A POINT NOT TO SPEND ANY MORE MONEY UNTIL I GOT TO NEW BRUNSWICK. IT'S NOT THAT A LOT OF THE PEOPLE WEREN'T FRIENDLY, IT'S JUST THAT A FEW HAVE SHITTY ATTITUDES TOWARD ENGLISH SPEAKING PEOPLE - THOSE FEW MAKE YOU SUSPICIOUS OF EVERYONE ELSE.

ANYHOW, IT'S BEEN A GOOD DAY. I'VE TRIED TO FIND A LAUNDROMAT FOR CLOSE TO A WEEK NOW & I FOUND ONE WITHIN FIVE MINUTES OF

107 6460

ENTERING NEW BRUNSWICK. AND I'VE ALSO MADE A BIG DEAL ABOUT NOT HAVING A SHOWER IN A WHILE. I LOCKED INTO A FREE ONE WHEN I STOPPED AT THE CITY PARK & CAMPGROUND IN DALHOUSIE. THEY WERE BOARDING IT UP FOR THE WINTER & TOLD ME TO GO RIGHT AHEAD - NOT BAD!

ALSO, I HAVEN'T RUN INTO ANYONE IN NEW BRUNSWICK WHO HASN'T BEEN WILLING TO SPEAK TO ME IN ENGLISH WHICH IS GREAT, & QUITE A FEW FOLKS HAVE STOPPED TO TALK TO ME ABOUT MY TRIP. IT'S GREAT TO BE SURROUNDED BY FRIENDLY FOLKS AGAIN.

I SUPPOSE THE PEOPLE IN QUÉBEC WHO TRIED TO SPEAK TO ME WOULD HAVE BEEN FRIENDLY TOO, BUT WHEN I TOLD THEM I DIDN'T SPEAK FRENCH THEY WOULD ~~PRO~~ FROWN & IMMEDIATELY TURN THEIR BACKS ON YOU. WHAT A BUNCH OF SHIT HEADS!

THERE HASN'T BEEN ANY SIGHTSEEKING TODAY. IT'S A LOT LIKE THE SOUTHERN GASPE PENINSULA - LOW ROLLING HILLS & ROCKY BEACHES WITH OCCASSIONAL CLIFFS.

I'M CAMPING IN A SUBDIVISION THAT'S ~~BEING~~ BEING BUILT AT THE OUTSKIRTS OF

6460 107

BATHURST TONIGHT. IT'S POSSIBLE A FEW PEOPLE COULD HAVE SEEN ME SET UP CAMP. I HOPE NONE OF THEM ARE WHISTLE BLOWERS, IF ^{THEY AREN'T} I SHOULD BE OK TILL MORNING.

LAST NIGHT I COMPLAINED ABOUT THE LITTLE BLACK BUGS SWARMING ALL OVER ME. TONIGHT IT SOME EXCEPTIONALLY HUNGRY MOSQUITOES - MORE THAN I'VE ENCOUNTERED ELSEWHERE ON MY TRIP. I'LL HAVE TO REMEMBER TO MOVE FAST CLEARING CAMP IN THE MORNING.

MY EATING TODAY HAS BEEN FAIRLY TYPICAL OF THAT OF A COMMON LONG MILEAGE DAY. SO I THOUGHT I'D RECORD IT SO AS NOT TO FORGET HOW GLUTINOUS I CAN BE:

- LOTS OF WATER
- ONE BANANA
- LITER OF MILK
- TWO STRAWBERRY MUFFINS
- 1/4 LITER OF ORANGEJUICE
- 1/4 LITER OF LEMONADE
- 3/4 LITER OF COKE
- 120Z NEAR BEER (BLEAH!!)
- ABOUT 1/3 LB GRANOLA
- ABOUT 1/3 LB GRAPES
- EIGHT WHITE CUPCAKES w/ SOFT WHITE FROSTING & SLICED ALMONDS.
- FIVE LARGE SANDWICHES ON CAT- MEAL BREAD:
- ^{THREE} ~~FOUR~~ 'PIZZA LOAF'
- TWO PEANUT BUTTER & CHERRY JAM

108 6545

9-785

85mi

THE 85 MILES I DID TODAY SEEMED LIKE 185. NOT ONLY WAS MY BODY CRYING OUT FOR ME TO STOP SO THAT IT COULD GET CAUGHT UP REBUILDING MY FUEL SUPPLIES, BUT I HAD TO DEAL WITH SOME PRETTY GOOD HEADWINDS AS WELL. I'M JUST GLAD I WAS ABLE TO TAKE A SHOWER AT THE END OF IT ALL.

THE RIDE FROM BATHURST TO KOUCHI-BOUGUAC (KOOSHA-BOO-GUACK) WAS NOTHING GREAT. THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE DAY WAS FINDING AN INFORMATION PLACE OPEN. AT LEAST NOW I CAN BE WELL PREPARED FOR MY TRIP TO FUNDY NAT'L PARK.

I'M CAMPING IN A PRIMITIVE CAMPGROUND HERE AT KOUCHI-BOUGUAC & I'M ALL ALONE. I THINK THERE'S A \$5 FEE FOR CAMPING HERE, SO I PLAN ON CLEARING OUT EARLY TO AVOID PAYING. I'LL FIND SOMEWHERE TO PARK MY BIKE WHILE I LOOK AROUND TOMORROW & THEN I'LL SET UP CAMP AGAIN WHEN I'M FINISHED.

THOSE 'EXCEPTIONALLY HUNGRY' MOSQUITOES I SPOKE OF YESTERDAY HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY RAVENOUS KAMIKAZE MOSQUITOES. NEED-

(6600)

109

TO SAY

LESS, I SET UP CAMP IN RECORD TIME.

I'VE CERTAINLY GOTTEN QUITE GOOD AT GETTING EVERYTHING INSIDE MY TENT QUICKLY WITHOUT GETTING A LOT OF MOSQUITOES AS WELL. LAST NIGHT I HAD NONE, TONIGHT I ONLY HAD ONE.

(9885)

(55mi)

THIS HAS BEEN THE NICEST DAY I'VE SEEN IN A WEEK OR TWO. THE SKY WAS ALMOST COMPLETELY CLEAR, IT WAS FAIRLY WARM. UNFORTUNATELY IT WAS QUITE WINDY ALSO, BUT THAT WAS TO MY ADVANTAGE AS I WAS PUSHED BY A TAILWIND ON MY WAY TOWARD MONCTON.

I GOT A LATE START, DID THE SIGHT SEEING THAT I THOUGHT WOULD INTEREST ME. I EXPLORED THE BOG, WHICH WAS OVER 20 FT DEEP IN PLACES, THE SAND BARS AT KELLY'S BEACH, THE KOUCHIBOUQUAC RIVER. AND OF COURSE I TOOK ANOTHER SHOWER BEFORE LEAVING.

I RAN INTO ANOTHER CYCLIST TODAY, A GUY FROM ONTARIO WHO WAS SPENDING A COUPLE WEEKS IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

I STOPPED AT A SMALL STORE IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE THIS AFTERNOON.

110

(6670)

CREATED QUITE A STIR ONCE THE OWNER FOUND OUT WHERE I WAS FROM. THE REALLY GREAT THING ABOUT IT WAS SHE WAS FRENCH-SPEAKING & FRIENDLY - A COMMON COMBINATION IN N.B. WHERE $\frac{1}{3}$ OF THE PEOPLE SPEAK FRENCH. IT'S A SHAME QUÉBEC COULDN'T BE SO AMIABLE.

I'M CAMPING IN A FIELD SURROUNDED BY LOW TREES JUST SOUTH OF NOTRE DAME. I'M SURE IT'S PRIVATE PROPERTY, BUT IT'S WELL SCREENED FROM THE ROAD SO I SHOULD BE O.K.

YOU KNOW THOSE 'INSTANT WINNER' PRIZES YOU GET WITH FOOD OR SODA POP? WELL I FINALLY GOT ONE TODAY. PROBLEM IS, I NEEDED TO REDEEM IT BY THE END OF AUGUST! OH, WELL.

(4985)

(70mi)

IT WAS TOO COLD LAST NIGHT, BUT IT'S TURNED OUT TO BE A BEAUTIFUL DAY.

NOTHING UNUSUAL HAPPENED FROM NOTRE DAME TO HOPEWELL CAPE, IN FACT IT'S BEEN PRETTY MUCH ROUTINE ALL THE WAY TO FUNDY NAT'L PARK.

I STOPPED AT THE ROCKS PROVINCIAL PARK THIS AFTERNOON FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS, & SAW THE 'FLOWERPOTS': HUGE COLUMNS OF ROCK THAT SEPARATED FROM THE MAINLAND WITH THEIR

6670 

ORIGINAL VEGETATION STILL INTACT ATOP THEM. IT WAS INTERESTING & THERE WERE LOTS OF ROCKS TO SCRAMBLE AROUND ON TO BURN OFF SOME ENERGY.

WHILE THERE I ALSO SAW REMNANTS OF THE WOODEN DYKES THAT THE ACADIANS (THE FIRST CANADIAN SETTLERS) BUILT TO PROTECT THEIR FIELDS FROM THE GIANT TIDES AROUND HERE.

I SPENT THE REMAINDER OF THE DAY ON A PLEASANT RIDE TO FUNDY NAT'L PARK, DAYDREAMING ABOUT WALKING ACROSS SWITZERLAND WHEN I GET THERE. SUPPOSEDLY THE TRAILS ARE WELL MARKED & IT'S EASY ENOUGH TO FIND TOWNS EVERY DAY SO YOU DON'T NEED A LOT OF FOOD. IT SOUNDS AS IF I WOULDN'T NEED TO CARRY MUCH GEAR & I FIGURE I COULD CATCH A TRAIN BACK. I WROTE MIKE JR. TODAY TO SEE IF HE'D BE INTERESTED IN DOING IT WITH ME (IF NOT I'LL TRY TO TALK SCOTT SELKE (LISA'S BROTHER) INTO IT OR DO IT ALONE).

I ARRIVED AT FUNDY ONLY TO FIND THAT EVERYTHING (ALMOST) THAT I WANTED TO SEE WAS AT THE EAST ENTRANCE, & THE FREE CAMPING IS AT THE NORTH ENTRANCE.

 6675

I ARRIVED AT THE ~~WEST~~^{EAST} ENTRANCE &, USING MY BEST WHEELING TONE, TOLD THE RANGER I WAS TIRED, BLAH, BLAH... (w/ton). I JUST ABOUT FELL OVER WHEN HE TOLD ME THAT I COULD STAY FOR FREE! I GUESS A LITTLE GROVELING FOR AN OUNCE OR TWO OF PITY OCCASSIONALLY PAYS SOME DIVIDENDS.

SO WITH A PICNIC TABLE & WATER AVAILABLE I COOKED UP MY FIRST CASSEROLE OF THE TRIP USING CANNED TURKEY, CREAM OF MUSHROOM SOUP, & EGG NOODLES. IT WAS ONE OF MY BEST EFFORTS, THOUGH NOTHING TO RAVE ABOUT.

I ALSO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE FREE SLIDE SHOW ON THE ACADIAN FOREST & RETURNED JUST IN TIME TO HAVE A RACCOON POKE HIS NOSE UNDER THE RAIN FLY OF MY TENT & STARE AT ME FOR A WHILE. I'M GLAD I DIDN'T FORGET TO HANG MY FOOD.

9-10-85

5mi

FINALLY! - A DAY OF REST.

I SLEPT IN UNTIL 9:00 THIS MORNING, MOSTLY BECAUSE THE RACCOONS KEPT ME UP MOST OF THE NIGHT SNIFFING BESIDE MY TENT FOR FOOD. I DID A LITTLE CYCLING AS IT WAS

6675 

NECESSARY TO GO INTO ALMA FOR SOME FOOD (I SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THAT YESTERDAY, BUT MY APETITE IS ALWAYS LARGER THAN I THINK IT IS, SO THAT WOULDN'T HAVE HELPED MOST LIKELY).

IT WAS RAINING LIGHTLY WHEN I GOT TO THE POINT TO START THE HIKE I'D PLANNED FOR TODAY; IT LOOKED LIKE ABOUT 10 MILES ALONG RATTAIL, COASTAL, & WHITETAIL TRAILS.

IT STARTED OUT PRETTY STEEP UP AN OLD DIRT ROAD, & FLATTENED OUT AFTER 3KM ON TOP OF A RIDGE, WHERE THERE WERE SOME GREAT VIEWS OF THE BAY, ETC...

THAT WAS ABOUT ALL I SAW EXCEPT TREES & PLANTS & A COTTONTAIL DEER (I ALSO SAW THE TRAIL ON OCCASSION (IT WAS GETTING FAIRLY WELL OVER GROWN WITH VEGETATION)) UNTIL I REACHED THE WOLFE RIVER AFTER 5km more.

I ROCK-HOPPED ACROSS THE RIVER (IT WAS VERY SHALLOW, BUT COLD AS I DISCOVERED ONCE BY ACCIDENT) & CONTINUED ON TO WOLFE POINT, ANOTHER 5KM AWAY.

I ARRIVED THERE; I GOT MY FIRST REAL WORTHWHILE VIEWS OF THE PARK. POINT WOLFE IN & OF ITSELF WAS GREAT & IN ADDITION,

 6675

THERE WAS A COVERED BRIDGE NEARBY & THE REMNANTS OF AN OLD LOGGING DAM.

ANOTHER 1 KM DOWN THE ROAD I REACHED THE TRAILHEAD FOR THE COASTAL TRAIL WHICH FOLLOWED THE COASTLINE FOR 7KM TO HERRING COVE. THERE WERE A ENOUGH GREAT VIEWS OF THE COAST TO MAKE IT PLEASANT ENOUGH, BUT BY THE TIME I REACHED HERRING COVE & GOBBLED DOWN THE REST OF MY FOOD I WAS PRETTY WELL BAGGED.

OF COURSE I STILL NEEDED TO GO ANOTHER 3KM TO REACH MY START POINT & SO I TRODDERD ALONG THOUGHTLESSLY IN ORDER TO KEEP SUCH A SHORT DISTANCE FROM SEEMING LONG. I'M JUST GLAD THAT IN MY TRANCE I DIDN'T ACCIDENTALLY GET OFF THE TRAIL.

OF COURSE I ~~FA~~ FINALLY MADE IT BACK AT 6:10, BUT I HAD COVERED OVER 14 MILES INSTEAD OF 10 & IT WAS TOO LATE TO CAMP AT THE NORTH END OF THE PARK.

SO I'M CAMPED ILLEGALLY AT THE GROUP CAMP AREA & I'VE STOCKED UP A ROARING FIRE IN THE

(6740)

112

WOOD STOVE THAT IS SITTING INSIDE MY SHELTER. GUESS I'LL CROSS MY FINGERS, HOPE A RANGER DOESN'T COME ACROSS ME BEFORE TOMORROW.

I'M ANXIOUS TO SEE HOW MY MUSCLES FEEL TOMORROW AS IT WILL BE A GOOD INDICATION OF THE SORT OF PACE I'LL BE ABLE TO START WITH WHEN I CROSS THE ALPS. I TRIED TO STRETCH A BIT AFTER GETTING BACK, BUT THE INSIDE OF MY RIGHT THIGH SEEMED AS THOUGH IT MIGHT BE SORE WHEN I AWAKE.

(9-11-85)

(65mi)

I AWOKE WITH VERY LITTLE STIFFNESS THIS AM., WHICH WAS A BIT OF A SURPRISE. MY FEET ACHE A BIT, BUT I GUESS THAT'S UNDERSTANDABLE.

I GOT A SLOW START TODAY AS IT WAS RAINING & GOING ON ANOTHER HIKE IN THE RAIN DIDN'T SOUND PLEASANT. ONCE I GOT GOING IT WAS 25 MILES OF HEADWINDS, COLD TEMPERATURES, & STEEP HILLS WHICH TOOK ME ABOUT 3 HRS. AFTER THAT THE WIND WAS MORE OR LESS BEHIND ME & THINGS WENT WELL.

I STOPPED AT MONCTON AT A BAKERY THRIFT STORE & BOUGHT A BUNCH OF BAKED GOODS AT HALF PRICE. IT'S A SHAME I COULDN'T HAVE BOUGHT MORE, BUT IT WAS ALL VERY BULKY.

113

(6805)

I DIDN'T FEEL MUCH LIKE RIDING TODAY & SO I CAMPED EARLY (4:30 PM). I'M FINALLY TRESPASSING ON PUBLIC PROPERTY, SO I DOUBT IF THERE'LL BE ANY PROBLEM IF ANYONE FINDS ME. I'M CAMPING ON A TELEPHONE OR POWER LINE RIGHT OF WAY JUST EAST OF MONCTON.

(9-12-85)

(65mi)

THE FIRST FROST! IT WASN'T BAD THOUGH - MOST OF IT MELTED VERY SOON AFTER THE SUN ROSE, BUT STILL IT WAS QUITE NIPPY EARLY IN THE DAY. IT'S BEEN A GOOD THING THAT THE SUN'S BEEN OUT ALL DAY.

NOT MUCH HAPPENED THIS MORNING. I MET A COUPLE OF FRIENDLY FOLKS & TWO GIRLS FROM ALBERTA WHO WERE ON THE LAST DAY OF THEIR CYCLING TRIP. THE SCENERY WAS PLEASANT ENOUGH, BUT MY DAYDREAMS WERE BETTER SO I DIDN'T NOTICE IT VERY MUCH.

I'VE BEEN SPENDING QUITE A BIT OF MY TIME IN THE SADDLE JUST DAYDREAMING LATELY. DAYDREAMING ABOUT HIKING ACROSS SWITZERLAND WITH MIKE JR. OR SCOTT SELKE OR ALONE OR ALL THREE OF US. ABOUT MEETING FRIENDS AT PREARRANGED PLACES IN EUROPE & DOING SOMETHING A BIT UNUSUAL TO MAKE SURE THOSE TIMES ARE EXTRA-SPECIAL. ABOUT WHAT IT WILL BE

6805 113

LIKE TO COME HOME; HOW I'D LIKE TO DO IT WITH A BANG RATHER THAN UNHERALDED, AS I LEFT. ABOUT HOW I'D WRITE A BOOK ABOUT MY TRIP; WHICH THINGS I'VE ALREADY DONE MIGHT BE WORTH WRITING ABOUT. ABOUT BUILDING A HOUSE NEAR THE ISSAQUAH ALPS: A 5/8 DOME WITH A TOWER LIBRARY/READING ROOM, AND ABOUT DIFFERENT WAYS TO EARN A COMFORTABLE LIVING ASIDE FROM WORKING FULL TIME (THOUGH I'D HAVE TO DO THAT FOR A WHILE).

I'VE ALSO THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT I'LL DO THIS WINTER IN FLORIDA; WHILE WORKING ON A CRUISE SHIP STILL HAS A LOT OF APPEAL, FINDING A CONSTRUCTION JOB WOULD PROBABLY BE EASIER; I COULD GAIN SOME KNOWLEDGE THAT WOULD HELP WHEN BUILDING MY OWN HOUSE. PERHAPS I COULD DO THAT WHILE WAITING FOR A CRUISE SHIP JOB?

INSPITE OF MY DAYDREAMING I MANAGED TO ARRIVE AT THE CAPE TORMENTINE FERRY TERMINAL TO CATCH THE BOAT TO P.E.I.. I MET A VERY FRIENDLY COUPLE FROM ILLINOIS THAT THOUGHT WHAT I WAS DOING WAS VERY EXCITING; WANTED TO

114 6835

CORRESPOND WITH ME, SO WE EXCHANGED ADDRESSES.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND IS A GREAT PLACE! THE FIRST THING I NOTICED WAS HOW FRIENDLY EVERYONE IS AROUND HERE. IT'S ALMOST LIKE BEING IN THE MIDWEST AGAIN, ONLY PRETTIER.

I'VE FOUND PERHAPS THE BEST FREE CAMPING SPOT SO FAR ON MY TRIP. IT'S AT THE END OF ALMOST NON-EXISTANT TRAIL; SITS ON A WOODED CLIFF OVERLOOKING A RED ROCK BEACH WITH A VIEW OF THE MAINLAND. AND OF COURSE THE SUN IS JUST POURING IN FROM THE EAST MAKING IT COMFORTABLE TO BE OUT AT 7:00PM WITHOUT EXTRA CLOTHES, WHICH IS VERY UNUSUAL UP HERE. I CAN'T IMAGINE THAT I'LL RUN INTO ANY OWNERS OUT HERE.

(Between Desable, & Argyle Shores)

9/13/85

50m

A VERY PRODUCTIVE DAY. I FINALLY FOUND MOM AT HOME (TO WISH HER HAPPY BIRTHDAY), I GOT MY LAUNDRY DONE, BOUGHT A NEW TIRE (\$2250!), & BOUGHT A USED BOOK - SOMETHING ABOUT CROSSING THE ATLANTIC IN A BOAT (SORT OF LIKE THE RA EXPEDITIONS).

I WAS GLAD TO HEAR FROM MOM AGAIN, & OVERJOYED TO LEARN I HAD A LOT OF MAIL TO LOOK FOR -

(6950)

115

WARD TO. I'M TRYING TO PLAN MY MILEAGE FOR TODAY & TOMORROW SO THAT I'M AS CLOSE TO MY MAIL STOP AT PETIT ETANG, N.S. AS POSSIBLE ~~BEFORE 10:00 PM~~ BY SUNDAY EVENING SO THAT I CAN PICK UP MY MAIL EARLY & THE NEXT DAY.

I ALSO WAS ABLE TO FINALLY GET A SHOWER TODAY, THOUGH IT COST \$1.50 AT THE CHARLOTTE-TOWN YMCA. I EVEN BOUGHT A DEODORANT STICK SO THAT I COULD GET NEAR NORMAL FOLKS WITHOUT SCARING 'EM OFF. I WOULD HAVE DONE THAT SOONER, BUT ON THE GASPÉ THEY COST \$4.50 - \$5 (I PAID \$2.50 IN MONCTON).

I STOPPED A LITTLE SOONER TO DAY THAN I HAD WANTED AS IT WAS STARTING TO RAIN. THE CAMPSITE I FOUND WAS ONE OF THE WORST SO FAR, BUT IT'S COMFORTABLE. IT WOULDN'T BE TOO BAD EXCEPT THERE ARE BEER CANS STREWED EVERYWHERE. IT'S NEAR ORWELL, P.E.I.

(9-14-85)

(95m)

A VERY GOOD DAY. SUNSHINE JUST ABOUT ALL DAY LONG & WARM ENOUGH TO RIDE IN SHIRT, SHORTS & GLOVES IN THE AFTERNOON. PLUS I HAD A PRETTY FAIR TAILWIND & I FOUND MY 7th 'ROADBEER' - A 160Z CAN OF 'ALPINE'.

115

(6950)

THE ONLY BAD PARTS OF THE DAY WERE PAYING \$5 TO TAKE THE FERRY FROM WOOD ISLANDS, PEI TO CARIBOU, N.S. & HURRIEDLY WRITING FOUR POSTCARDS TO MAIL BEFORE PETIT ETANG, FORGETTING THAT TODAY'S SATURDAY & THAT I HAVE NO STAMPS.

NOTHING GREAT HAPPENED TODAY, BUT I'M HAPPY BECAUSE I GOT A LOT FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD THAN I THOUGHT I WOULD. IT'LL BE EASY TO BE SITTING ON THE DOORSTEP OF THE POST OFFICE AT PETIT ETANG, WAITING FOR IT TO OPEN ON MONDAY MORNING.

FINDING THE ROADBEER WAS GREAT, TOO. THAT WAS THE FIRST SINCE INDIANA & THE ONLY ONE THAT WASN'T BUDWEISER.

I'VE BEEN TRYING TO FIND A SOUVENIR LICENSE PLATE FROM EASTERN CANADA SINCE MONTREAL & HAVE HAD ABSOLUTELY NO LUCK, THOUGH I FOUND THEM ON OCCASION BEFORE THEN. WELL, I FINALLY FOUND A PLATE TODAY, THOUGH IT WAS SO MANGLED IT WASN'T WORTH KEEPING, BUT IT GAVE ME HOPE I MAY STILL FIND ONE.

I'M CAMPING IN AN OPEN FIELD NEAR RICE HASTINGS WHICH OVERLOOKS THE CANSO STRAIGHT WHICH SEPARATES CAPE BRETON ISLAND FROM THE MAINLAND. I THINK I'LL

7020

116

BE O.K. HERE AS IT DOESN'T APPEAR TO BE PRIVATE PROPERTY. MY ONLY CONCERN IS IT MIGHT BE A PARKING AREA FOR KIDS, BUT I DOUBT IT AS THERE ARE NO EMPTY BEER CANS LAYING AROUND.

(9-15-85)

(70mi)

I ALLOWED MYSELF TO LAY AROUND LATER THAN NORMAL THIS A.M. AS I KNEW I'D GET CLOSE TO THE HIGHLANDS TODAY EVEN WITH A LATE START. I DIDN'T WANT TO GET TOO CLOSE TO PETIT ETANG EITHER. I'M ~~NOT SURE~~ ABOUT 12 MILES AWAY RIGHT NOW.

IT WAS ANOTHER DAY OF NOT MUCH HAPPENING. I TOOK A COUPLE OF PICTURES TODAY OUT OF GUILT FOR NOT TAKING ANY YESTERDAY. THE SCENERY IS GOOD, BUT NOT SPECTACULAR.

I'M CAMPING BETWEEN BELLE COTE & GRAND ETANG SOMEWHERE. I WENT DOWN A DIRT ROAD TO FIND A SPOT & ENDED UP DOUBLING BACK ALONG A DIFFERENT ROAD & FOUND A NICE SPOT IN AN OPEN FIELD THAT OVERLOOKS THE OCEAN. I WOULD HAVE LIKED A VIEW OF THE SHORE, BUT THAT WOULD HAVE ^{MEANT} BEING WITHIN VIEW OF A HOUSE THAT'S ONLY A COUPLE HUNDRED YARDS BEYOND THE CREST OF THE HILL. I DON'T WANT TO ADVERTISE MY PRESENCE

117

7065

IN CASE I'M NOT WELCOME.

ANYWAY, ANOTHER MILESTONE - 7,000+!

(9-16-85)

(45mi)

MAIL FROM HOME & PERFECT WEATHER - I'VE BEEN BLESSED!

NOT BAD - A LETTER & CARD FROM LEAH, A LETTER FROM ANN, A CARD FROM BEN, A REAL LONG LETTER FROM RANDY, A LETTER FROM TRAVIS & A NOTE FROM MOM. IT'S A SHAME I DON'T HAVE ANY LITERATE BROTHERS & SISTERS.

I HAD TO CYCLE UP A FEW LONG GRADES TODAY (CLIMBS OF ABOUT 1500') & THE WEATHER WAS GREAT FOR IT. JUST WARM ENOUGH THAT YOU DIDN'T FREEZE ~~ON~~ ON YOUR WAY DOWNHILL FROM ALL THE SWEATIN' YOU DID ON THE WAY UP.

RIGHT NOW I CAN HEAR A MOOSE OR MOOSES SNORTING FROM WHERE I'M CAMPING FOR THE NIGHT. I HOPE I DON'T GET TRAMPLED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.

I'M CAMPING HALFWAY BETWEEN PLEASANT BAY & CAPE NORTH ON A DIRT NAT'L PARK ROAD. NOT AN IDEAL SITE, BUT HOPEFULLY I WON'T BE BOTHERED BY ANYONE. IT WAS A BITCH GETTING THE STAKES POUNDED IN, SO I'M ONLY USING ~~4~~ 4 OUT OF 9. I HOPE THERE'S NOT A LOT OF DEW TOMORROW OR PROBABLY EVER-

7065

117

THING INSIDE THE TENT WILL GET SOAKED.

I ~~A~~ SAW MY FIRST COYOTE TODAY, BUT HE TOOK OFF RUNNING BEFORE I GOT A PICTURE.

I MUST ADMIT THAT I'M A LITTLE DISTRESSED ABOUT THE CLOSE PROXIMITY OF THE MOOSE I KEEP HEARING AS I THINK (AM ALMOST POSITIVE) THEY ARE BASICALLY NOCTURNAL CREATURES, & THE THOUGHT OF SLEEPING WITH THEM TROMPIN' AROUND OUTSIDE UNNERVES ME. BUT I'M SURE I'LL AWAKEN FROM AN UNEVENTFUL NIGHT IN THE MORNING.

OF COURSE, MAYBE I'M NOT TOO SURE. JUST AS I WROTE THAT I HEARD A LOUD NOISE LIKE A MOOSE CRASHING THROUGH THE UNDERBRUSH OFF TO MY LEFT. I THINK I'LL PACK UP & SLEEP IN THE EMERGENCY SHELTER DOWN THE ROAD, & DEAL WITH EXPLAINING MY PRESENCE THERE TO A RANGER, ETC... WHEN THAT HAPPENS.

WELL, I BROKE CAMP FASTER THAN EVER BEFORE, THOUGH IT'LL TAKE ME TWICE AS LONG TO PACK UP TOMORROW. OF COURSE I'M SURE THERE ARE NO MOOSE WITHIN TWO MILES

117

7065

OF ME NOW, AFTER ALL THE ZIPPIN' & UNZIPPIN' & THRASHIN' ABOUT I DID IN MY HASTE TO LEAVE. I MIGHT HAVE STAYED IF I HAD A RADIO I COULD LEAVE ON ALL NIGHT, BUT I DIDN'T & SO NOW I'M IN THE EMERGENCY SHELTER JUST A FEW FEET DOWN THE ROAD.

I STARTLED AN OLDER COUPLE AS I CAME ONTO THE MAIN ROAD. THEY WERE PARKED BESIDE THE ROAD WATCHING FOR MOOSE? DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK AS I APPEARED OUT OF THE DARKNESS. ~~THEY~~ ^{THEY} GOT A CHUCKLE OUT OF HEARING ABOUT MY APPREHENSION & DROVE ALONG.

I THINK I'LL TALK TO A RANGER ABOUT MOOSE TOMORROW & SEE IF I DID HAVE ANY CAUSE FOR ALARM. ACCORDING TO SOME OLD LADIES I MET EARLIER, IT'S NOT RUTTIN' SEASON, SO THEY WON'T ACT BELIGERENT & TERRITORIAL, BUT IT STILL MAY NOT BE THE SAFEST THING TO STAY THERE.

ANYWAY, THIS SHELTER IS GREAT - STILL VERY WARM FROM ALL THE SUNSHINE TODAY. IT APPEARS THAT SOMEONE HAS STOLEN THE WOOD STOVE EVEN THOUGH THERE'S A LOT OF FIREWOOD STACKED IN HERE.

I ALMOST FORGOT - I MET A CYCLIST

7065

117

TODAY FROM MILWAUKEE NAMED RUSS, WE TALKED FOR A WHILE AS WE MET AT THE CREST OF A HILL EARLY IN THE EVENING, & THOUGHT ABOUT CAMPING TOGETHER BUT THE ONLY DECENT PLACES WERE BELOW US & WE WERE HEADED OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS.

I'M SURE THE MOOSE & I WILL BOTH FEEL BETTER TONIGHT. I KNOW I'LL GET A LOT MORE SLEEP THIS WAY.

ANOTHER THING I ALMOST FORGOT, WAS THAT IT'S BEEN A SLIGHT PROBLEM FINDING POTABLE WATER AROUND HERE. AFTER LOOKING FOR QUITE A FEW MILES I FINALLY ASKED A GUY DRIVING A 30' MOTOR HOME FROM NEW JERSEY FOR SOME. GOT NOT ONLY WATER BUT A CAN OF GINGER PALE THAT WAS ICE COLD & A CAN OF PABST FOR THE ROAD. MAYBE I'LL START PANHANDLING RV'S AS AN INDIANA COUPLE WAS WILLING TO BE QUITE GENEROUS EARLIER IN THE DAY, BUT I'D JUST BEEN WATERED & FED SO I HAD TO DECLINE THEIR GENEROSITY.

I DON'T KNOW WHERE ALL THE MOOSE GO DURING THE DAY, BUT THERE'VE BEEN QUITE A FEW CRASHING AROUND OUTSIDE TONIGHT. I HOPE IT STAYS CLEAR SO I DON'T RUN INTO ONE

118 7135

IN THE FOG ON MY WAY OUT OF HERE IN THE MORNING

9-17-85

Toni

I SORT OF SCREWED THINGS UP A BIT BY GETTING A LATE START TODAY & THAT WAS COMPOUNDED BY MEETING A COUPLE FROM ONTARIO, TIM & SHELLEY, WHO WERE QUITE TALKATIVE, THOUGH I REALLY DIDN'T MIND THAT.

ANYWAY, THE BIG PLAN FOR THE DAY WAS TO CLIMB UP A MOUNTAIN TO GET A VIEW OF INGHAM BAY, BUT MY LATE START & SOME DIFFICULTY IN FINDING STORES & FRESH WATER CAUSED ME TO GET THERE A LITTLE LATER IN THE DAY THAN I WANTED SO I DECIDED TO BYPASS IT.

THE BIG EVENT OF THE DAY OCCURRED AFTER I LEFT THE PARK & WAS DESCENDING A STEEP HILL (CAPE SMOKEY - 900 FT ALT IN 1.3 MILES). I WAS ZOOMING ALONG TRYING NOT TO GO TOO FAST AS MY BRAKES COULD STAND TO BE ADJUSTED, ^{BUT} I WAS SCOOTIN' ALONG PRETTY GOOD & HAD A HARD TIME MAKING ONE CURVE WHEN A BUS CAME RAMBLING AROUND A BLIND SWITCH-BACK BLOCKING BOTH LANES ^{AT THE BASE OF THE HILL} I GRABBED ONTO TO BOTH ~~BRAKE~~ BRAKE LEVERS TRYING NOT TO LOCK MY WHEELS & JUST KEPT SAYING "OH,

(7135) (118)

SHIT! OH, SHIT! OVER & OVER TO MYSELF AS I STEERED FARTHER & FARTHER OVER TO THE EDGE OF THE ROAD. I MANAGED TO SLOW DOWN ENOUGH TO CONTROL MY SKID ONCE I WAS FINALLY FORCED OFF THE ROAD ONTO A NARROW GRAVEL SHOULDER & AS I DID SO THE BUS SWUNG PAST ABOUT 1 1/2' IN FRONT OF ME. ~~OVER~~

WITH THE DANGER PASSED I HOPPED ABOARD MY BIKE & COASTED ALONG SLOWLY THINKING HOW MUCH HITTING THAT BUS WOULD HAVE HURT WHEN A COUPLE FROM FLORIDA PULLED ALONG SIDE OF ME (THEY HAD SEEN THE WHOLE THING) & THE WIFE LEANED OUT HER WINDOW & SAID "YOU'RE A GREAT CYCLIST!" NEEDLESS TO SAY I GOT A KICK OUT OF HEARING THAT & THE WHOLE INCIDENT SEEMED A LOT LESS DISTURBING.

ANYHOW, I'M CAMPING ~~IN~~ A FEW MILES SOUTH OF ENGLISH TOWN TONIGHT ON AN OLD ROAD COVERED WITH TALL GRASS. IT'S NOT THE MOST COMFORTABLE PLACE, BUT IT WAS AFTER SUNSET WHEN I GOT HERE & I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR A PLACE FOR QUITE A WHILE.

THE 'BIG PLAN' FOR TOMORROW IS TO SEE THE A.G. BELL MUSEUM, & DO A LOT MILES.

(119) (7200)

YESTERDAY (THE 17TH) WAS ALSO THE FIRST TIME I'D EVER RIDDEN ON A CABLE FERRY, WHICH WAS KIND OF NEAT. I GOT A KICK OUT OF THE 'CAPTAIN' (APPARENTLY THE ONLY HAND ON BOARD) SITTING IN HIS LITTLE TOWER IN ALL HIS MARITIME FINERY WITH HIS HEAD BARELY POKING UP ABOVE THE WINDOW AS HE 'SAILED' HIS SHIP ~~ACROSS~~ ACROSS A NARROW CHANNEL. HE CERTAINLY LOOKED A BIT ABSURD.

I FORGOT TO FIND OUT ABOUT THE MOOSE YESTERDAY, MAINLY BECAUSE I DIDN'T SEE A RANGER ALL DAY. I'LL HAVE TO ASK AT ACADIA NAT'L PARK WHEN I ARRIVE IN MAINE.

(9-1885)

~~65~~ (65 mi)

A PRETTY GOOD DAY, THOUGH I DIDN'T DO AS MANY MILES AS I WOULD HAVE LIKED.

I STARTED OUT BY VISITING THE ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL NAT'L HISTORIC SITE WHICH WAS VERY INTERESTING & CONSUMED ABOUT 1 1/2 HRS. OUTSIDE I MET A GUY FROM VANCOUVER, WA & WE HAD A LONG WINDED CONVERSATION ABOUT BICYCLES & TOURING SO BY THE TIME I LEFT THERE THE DAY WAS NEARLY SUNT.

NEXT I HEADED FOR THE CANISO CAUSEWAY WHICH HAS TURNED OUT TO BE MY STOPPING POINT FOR THE DAY, A BIT SHORT OF WHERE

7200 119

I'D LIKE TO BE. OF COURSE THAT DOESN'T MATTER AS THIS HAS BEEN A GOOD DAY. ON THE WAY HERE I FOUND WHAT I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR - A NOVA SCOTIA LICENSE PLATE! IT'S A BIT UNUSUAL - MOST N.S. PLATES ARE BLUE ON WHITE & COMMERCIAL PLATES ARE BLACK ON YELLOW, BUT THIS ONE IS RED ON YELLOW. I WONDER WHAT THE SIGNIFICANCE IS? HOPEFULLY ALEX WILL KNOW WHEN I SEE HIM IN HALIFAX.

I SCREWED UP & LOST THREE POSTCARDS TODAY - ONES FOR LEAH, ANN, & TRAVIS. THEY WERE STAMPED SO IT'LL BE INTERESTING TO SEE IF ANY OF THEM ARE PICKED UP & SENT ON.

I MET A GUY NAMED MERRELL CALLAWAY WHO SAID HE'D LOOK FOR THEM. HE WAS CYCLING NORTH & HAD STARTED OUT FROM SEATTLE. HIS PLAN IS TO GO TO NEWFOUNDLAND & HOP A RIDE ON A FISHING BOAT TO PORTUGAL WHERE HE'LL SPEND THE WINTER. IF PEOPLE WEREN'T EXPECTING ME I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE WENT WITH HIM, BUT THIS MAY BE MY ONLY CHANCE TO SEE THE EAST COAST SO WHAT THE HELL. AT LEAST I GOT HIS MAILING ADDRESS SO WE COULD TRY TO HOOK-UP IN EUROPE.

120 7210

I'VE CAMPED NEAR AULD COVE FOR THE EVENING ALONG A DIRT ROAD NEXT TO AN ABANDONED HOUSE. I'LL TRY TO MAKE IT TO THE ATLANTIC OCEAN TOMORROW. IT WILL BE THE FIRST TIME I ACTUALLY SEE IT, AS UP 'TIL NOW I'VE USUALLY BEEN LOOKING AT LARGE BAYS OR THE GULF OF ST. LAWRENCE.

9-19-85

90mi

AN EDUCATIONAL & SOMEWHAT HUMBLING DAY. I DISCOVERED I'M NOT AS SMART AS I THOUGHT I WAS. WHEN MY REAR TIRE WEARS DOWN TO ITS LAST 400-500 MILES I'VE BEEN BUYING A REPLACEMENT & FOLDING IT PROPERLY & STICKING IT UNDER ONE OF THE FLAPS OF MY KANGAROO BAGGS. SOMEHOW I'VE BEEN DAMAGING MY SPARES WHEN I DO THIS & I'VE RUINED THREE TIRES SINCE LAST YEAR, YET I'VE JUST NOW REALIZED I'M DOING SOMETHING WRONG. I'M GLAD I FOUND OUT HERE RATHER THAN IN ALGERIA WHERE IT WOULD'VE BEEN MORE THAN AN EXPENSIVE INCONVENIENCE.

SO NOW I EITHER NEED TO FIND A NEW WAY OF STORING A SPARE OR FIND OUT WHAT TO CHANGE ABOUT THE WAY I'M STORING THEM NOW. I SCREWED UP THE SIDEWALL OF THE TIRE.

7290

120

I RAN ^{100m} 125 IN CHARLOTTETOWN & ENDED UP
BLOWING THE TIRE & THE TUBE. LUCKILY I
HAD KEPT MY OLD TIRE SO I PUT IT ON
FRONT & CHANGED THE FRONT TO THE REAR &
WAS BACK ON THE ROAD IN NO TIME AT ALL.
I PUT THE OLD ONE ON FRONT AS THE
BACK WEARS ABOUT TEN TIMES FASTER THAN
THE FRONT & THAT WAY I HAVE A GOOD
CHANCE OF FINDING A BIKE SHOP EVEN THOUGH
I MIGHT HAVE TO PEDAL 100 MILES TO FIND
ONE (THE OLD TIRE IS ALREADY WORN THROUGH
TO THE CORD).

SO THAT WAS THE BIG EVENT TODAY, THERE
WERE SOME SIGHTS TO SEE, BUT NOTHING OF
INTEREST TO ME.

IT'S NICE TO BE OFF CAPE BRETON ISLE.
THE TRAFFIC IS THINNING TO ALMOST NOTHING &
IT'S BEEN A PEACEFUL RIDE THROUGH FARMLAND
& ROLLING HILLS. I HAVEN'T REALLY MIND-ED
THE HEADWIND I'VE HAD ALL DAY. OF COURSE
IF I HAD A TAILWIND IT'D PROBABLY BE
RAINING LIKE HELL. I GUESS THAT MEANS I'LL
EVEN BE HAPPY IF IT DECIDES TO RAIN.

I'M CAMPING NEXT TO A SMALL CLEAR
CUT BETWEEN ECUM SECUM & NECOM TRUGH.
IT'S NOT GREAT, BUT I WANTED TO STOP 10 MI.
BACK.

121 7390

9-20-85

100mi

A HUNDRED MILES INTO THE WIND. BUT IT
WAS A BEAUTIFUL DAY, THOUGH VERY TIRING.

NOTHING MUCH HAPPENED TODAY. I SAW A LOT
OF BEAUTIFUL COVES, INLETS, BAYS & HARBORS,
BUT I DIDN'T TAKE TOO MANY PICTURES.

I MANAGED TO FIND A NEW TIRE IN SHEET
HARBOR & I REPLACED MY WORN TIRE ON
THE SPOT. I'VE RESOLVED TO BUY ONLY CHEAP
TIRES ON THE REST OF MY TRIP TO FLORIDA.
THAT WAY I'LL KNOW HOW LONG THEY LAST, AS I'M
SURE THAT FINDING HIGH QUALITY TIRES WILL
BE IMPOSSIBLE IN THE REMOTE & UNDEVELOPED
CORNERS OF THE WORLD. KNOWING HOW LONG
THEY LAST WILL HELP ME TO ESTIMATE HOW
MANY SPARES TO CARRY.

I ALMOST 'BONKED' TODAY - RAN OUT OF
FUEL DUE TO RIDING TOO LONG WITHOUT
EATING. BUT I WAS FINE AFTER TAKING
A 25 MINUTE BREAK SHORTLY AFTER EATING
LUNCH. I THOUGHT FOR A WHILE THAT I
WOULDN'T MAKE IT TO HALIFAX BUT I DID.

I WAS HOPING THAT I'D BE ABLE TO SPEND
THE NIGHT WITH ALEX MACINTOSH BUT THAT
DIDN'T WORK OUT AS HE'S BEEN SICK LATELY.
HE DID INVITE ME OVER FOR BRUNCH TOMORROW.

7425

122

THOUGH. I'LL TRY TO TALK HIM INTO LETTING ME CAMP IN HIS BACKYARD TOMORROW SO I DON'T HAVE TO SPEND ANOTHER \$8 AT THE HOSTEL LIKE I HAVE TONIGHT.

IT'S KIND OF NICE STAYING AT THE HOSTEL AS IT WILL GIVE ME TIME TO CATCH UP ON CORRESPONDENCE. I'VE BEEN PUSHING SO HARD & CAMPING SO LATE FOR THE FIRST FEW DAYS THAT I'M GETTING PRETTY FAR BEHIND.

I GOT TO SEE A BIT OF HALIFAX ON THE PASSENGER FERRY I TOOK TO CROSS THE HARBOR & I THINK IT SHOULD BE VERY INTERESTING.

(9-21-85)

(35mi)

I LEFT THE HOSTEL AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE AFTER SWABBING THREE FLIGHTS OF STAIRS & HEADBO FOR THE HARBOR. I CALLED ALEX & DECLINED HIS OFFER OF BRUNCH & WENT ABOUT DOING A BIT OF SIGHTSEEING.

I VISITED THE ^{MARITIME} ~~MARINE~~ MUSEUM OF THE ATLANTIC FIRST. I DIDN'T SPEND A LOT OF TIME THERE, BUT I WAS FASCINATED BY THE WINDPOWERED BILGE PUMP THAT WAS USED ON A SQUARE-RIGGER & BY THE SELF-BAILING LIFEBOAT. THEY HAD ALSO CONSTRUCTED A REPLICA OF A SAILBOAT CABIN IN ONE OF THE DISPLAYS WHICH HAD A

122

7425

PICTURE OF THE SKY & SEA & SOME ROPES SHOWING THROUGH A PORTHOLE WHICH TOGETHER WITH A CABINET DOOR OPENING & CLOSING IN UNISON GAVE THE FEELING THAT THE BOAT WAS MOVING.

NEXT STOP WAS THE CITADEL, ONE OF THE MANY FORTIFICATIONS IN & AROUND HALIFAX. IT WAS TYPICAL OF MANY FORTS WITH A MILITARY MUSEUM, & THE FIRING OF THE NOON GUN.

THAT WAS ABOUT ALL THE FARTHER OUT OF MY WAY & THAT I CALLED TO CYCLE, SO I HEAD^{ED} OUT OF TOWN. IT WASN'T HARD TO FIND MY WAY OUT, EITHER - JUST HEAD STRAIGHT INTO THE WIND.

NOW THAT I WAS A FULL DAY AHEAD OF MY IMAGINARY & SELF-IMPOSED SCHEDULE I JUST DINKED ALONG & MADE IT A POINT NOT TO PUSH HARD. I THOUGHT I'D CAMP EARLY & DO A BIT OF READING SINCE I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO DO MUCH LATELY, BUT BEING ALONG THE COAST IT'S HARD TO FIND A DECENT CAMPSITE. IT TOOK ME OVER AN HOUR, AFTER INVESTIGATING A NUMBER OF POSSIBILITIES TO FINALLY FIND A ROCKY SITE A FEW FEET OFF THE MAIN ROAD^(NEAR ASPOTOGAN). I HOPE I FIND IT EASIER TO FIND A MORE SUITABLE SITE ONCE I HEAD INLAND ^{TOMORROW} AFTERNOON.

(7500)

(123)

(9-22-85)

(75mi)

SINCE I WAS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE I ALLOWED MYSELF TO SLEEP IN LATE, NOT HITTING THE ROAD UNTIL AFTER 10:00AM.

I MANAGED TO FIND A FEW OF THOSE COZY LITTLE FISHING VILLAGES THAT YOU SEE ON ALL THE POSTCARDS & POKE ALONG QUITE CONTENTEDLY TIL NOON.

SHORTLY THEREAFTER I MET THREE GUYS FROM MINNESOTA WHO HAD BEEN RIDING HARD TO CATCH ME. AFTER WE TALKED FOR QUITE SOME TIME I STARTED FEELING PRETTY REVVED UP & WAS BLOWING PAST THEM BEFORE I KNEW IT, SPINNING FREELY AS IF ON FLAT GROUND.

THAT SET UP THE REST OF MY DAY. I DECIDED THAT I COULD MAKE IT OUT OF CANADA WITHOUT EXCHANGING ANY MORE MONEY & SO THAT BECAME MY GOAL.

I ENDED UP ABOUT TWENTY MILE FARTHER THAN I HAD PLANNED, IN HARMONY MILLS. IT WAS A REAL PLEASURE TO FIND A CAMPSITE EASILY ONCE AGAIN, RATHER THAN STARTING & STOPPING EVERY FEW FEET & NOT FINDING ANYTHING.

(124)

(7500)

(9-23-85)

(60mi)

IT'S COLD AGAIN. IT'S BEEN GREAT WEATHER FOR ABOUT A WEEK NOW, BUT IT DIPPED DOWN TO ABOUT 40° LAST NIGHT. OF COURSE IT MAY HAVE BEEN A LOT WARMER ALONG THE COAST & SO TONIGHT MIGHT NOT BE TOO BAD.

IT WAS ABOUT 45 MILES FROM ~~BEAR~~ HARMONY MILLS TO DIGBY, WHERE I CAUGHT THE FERRY TO ST. JOHN, & I MANAGED TO MAKE IT IN FOUR HOURS DESPITE A LOT MORE HILLS ALONG THE WAY THAN I THOUGHT POSSIBLE. ONE HILL WAS PARTICULARLY MEMORABLE. I'M SURE THE GRADE IN ONE OR TWO PLACES WAS CLOSE TO 20%, THOUGH THE AVERAGE GRADE WAS LESS THAN 10%. BUT IT WAS A LONG ONE & I THOUGHT BY THE TIME I GOT THERE (BEAR RIVER) IT WOULD ALL BE DOWN HILL.

I MET TWO CYCLISTS WHILE ON THE FERRY WHO ~~WERE~~ WERE COMING FROM & GOING TO OTTAWA. THEY WERE A COUPLE IN THEIR LATE FORTIES OR EARLY FIFTIES. LAST YEAR THEY FLEW TO HELSINKI & CYCLED UP ABOVE THE ARCTIC CIRCLE, AS I PLAN TO, IN JUNE, WHICH IS EARLIER THAN I THOUGHT POSSIBLE. THEY DID SAY THAT THEY RAN INTO SOME LIGHT SNOW ON OCCASION.

I GOT TO DO A SMALL AMOUNT OF SIGHTSEEING

(7560)

(124)

TODAY WHEN QUITE BY ACCIDENT I WANDERED PAST THE CARLETON MARTELLO TOWER IN ST. JOHN. MARTELLO TOWERS ARE LIKE ROUND STONE BLOCK-HOUSES & MOST OF THOSE IN CANADA WERE BUILT BETWEEN THE WAR OF 1812 & THE MID 1840'S WHEN IT WAS FEARED THAT AMERICAN EXPANSIONIST POLICY WOULD INCLUDE AN ATTEMPT AT CLAIMING PART OF THE TERRITORY OF THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES.

IT WAS FASCINATING INSIDE. THE BOTTOM FLOOR WAS THE POWDER MAGAZINE & THE PLACE WHERE THE STRUCTURE WAS DEFENDED ~~BY~~ FROM A LAND ATTACK. THE SECOND FLOOR WAS THE BUNK-ROOM & THE THIRD FLOOR WAS CONVERTED DURING WWII AS AN OBSERVATION POST TO COORDINATE THE ACTIONS OF THE VARIOUS ST. JOHN HARBOR DEFENSES.

AFTER THAT, I HEADED OUT OF TOWN & ENDED UP CAMPING IN AN OLD GRAVEL PIT NEAR MUSQUASH, N.B.. I WAS SURPRISED WHEN THE COPS CAME THROUGH ON PATROL JUST AFTER DARK & DIDN'T EVEN SEE ME. I DON'T BELIEVE THAT THEY CAME BACK AFTER THAT.

I'M ABOUT 40 MILES FROM THE STATES RIGHT NOW WITH \$370 IN CANADIAN MONEY LEFT & TWO CANADIAN FERRIES TO CATCH. I WISH I KNEW HOW MUCH THEY COST SO I COULD BUY SOME MILK FOR BREAKFAST TOMORROW IF POSSIBLE.

(125)

(7635)

(9-24-85)

(15mi)

I CHECKED MY RESTING HEART RATE THIS MORNING - 43BPM! THAT'S NOT BAD-I THINK IT WAS 56BPM A MONTH BEFORE I LEFT.

THIS HAS BEEN A GOOD DAY, THOUGH A BIT ODD I GUESS.

THE SCENERY ON HWY 1 IN N.B. WAS PRETTY BORING, SO TO PASS THE TIME RIDING ALONG I WAS WATCHING THE SHOULDER OF THE ROAD HOPING TO FIND A SOUVENIR LICENSE PLATE, A "ROADBEER" OR SOMETHING OF VALUE.

I ENDED UP FINDING A CANADIAN DOLLAR! SO AFTER FINDING OUT THAT ONE OF THE FERRIES I PLANNED ON TAKING DIDN'T RUN AFTER LABOR DAY I HEADED FOR THE STORE WITH MY \$470 & BOUGHT A DAY'S WORTH OF FOOD FOR \$469.

NEXT, I HEADED FOR THE BORDER & AFTER HAVING MY BIKE PERUSED BY THE INSPECTOR & FILLING OUT A ^{CUSTOMS DECLARATION} ~~DECLARATION~~ ~~FORM~~ WAS BACK IN THE U.S.A. ONCE AGAIN.

OF COURSE I HAD TO GO TO MACDONALD'S FOR LUNCH & TO A GROCERY STORE TO BUY ONE CAN OF BEER FOR DINNER.

THAT'S WHEN I FOUND OUT ABOUT MAINE'S (IN FACT, NEW ENGLAND'S) 5¢ DEPOSIT ON ALL ALUMINUM CANS. I'VE DECIDED I'LL TAKE A

(7705) (126)

COUPLE HOURS OUT OF EACH DAY TO COLLECT CANS TO DEFRAY MY EXPENSES. LATELY JUST RIDING ALONG HAS BEEN A BIT TEDIOUS BECAUSE I DON'T STOP OFTEN ENOUGH (THERE'S USUALLY NO REASON OR PLACE TO); THIS MAY HELP IN THAT RESPECT.

SO FAR I'VE COLLECTED 24 CANS; RIDDEN TWENTY MILES IN THREE HOURS. I THINK PERHAPS I'LL TRY TO COLLECT ~~AT~~ AT LEAST TWENTY CANS A DAY & DO IT AFTER I'VE BEEN IN THE SADDLE FOR 3-4 HOURS ALREADY.

I'M CAMPING TONIGHT BETWEEN GROVE & COOPER, ME (I THINK) ON RTE 191. I PLAN ON CYCLING NEAR ENOUGH TO ACADIA NAT'L PARK TO BE THERE BY NOON, DAY AFTER TOMORROW.

(9:25:85)

(70mi)

GOOD NEWS & BAD NEWS TODAY. UNFORTUNATELY THE BAD NEWS IS COSTLY.

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT I WAS ABLE TO REDEEM \$355 WORTH OF ALUMINUM CANS (71 OF 'EM); STILL DID MORE THAN 60 MILES.

THE BAD NEWS IS THAT THE CURVED ZIPPER ON MY TENT WHICH HAS GIVEN ME FITS FOR WEEKS NOW HAS FINALLY GOTTEN BEYOND REPAIR (OR SO IT SEEMS) & THAT MEANS BUYING A NEW TENT. THAT COULD MEAN FORKING OUT UP

(126) (7705)

TO \$200! AND HAVING TO TAKE TIME TO SEAM SEAL, ETC...

I'LL HAVE TO SEE WHAT'S AVAILABLE. PERHAPS THE BEST THING WOULD BE TO HAVE MY BIVY SACK SENT TO TRAVIS' HOUSE & USE THAT THE REST OF THE WAY TO FLORIDA. IT WOULD BE A GOOD CHANCE TO SEE IF IT ~~WOULD~~ WOULD MAKE A PRACTICAL SHELTER FOR THE REMAINDER OF MY TRIP; ALLOW ME TO SHOP AROUND IF IT'S NOT. I'M SURE I COULD SURVIVE QUITE WELL IN IT FOR A COUPLE MONTHS AT LEAST.

ANYHOW, RAIN & FOG KEPT THE SIGHTSEEING TO A MINIMUM TODAY. AND THE TRAFFIC ON RTE 1 UNDER SUCH CONDITIONS HAD ME SCARED HALF TO DEATH, THOUGH THE MAINE DRIVERS DON'T SEEM TO BE TOO BAD. I HIT A SHORT SCENIC STRETCH (ONE THAT HAD A GOOD ROAD SURFACE - SOMETHING RARE IN MAINE) BETWEEN CHERRYFIELD & FRANKLIN, BUT IT WAS VERY SIMILAR TO INLAND NOVA SCOTIA, SO NOTHING EXCITING.

I'M AT W. FRANKLIN TONIGHT IN ANOTHER LESS THAN IDEAL CAMPSITE, BUT AT LEAST I'M NOT BOTHERING ANYONE.

TOMORROW THE BAR HARBOR TOURIST TRAP!

(7740)

(27)

(9-26-85)

(35m)

LEADS AT LAST! I FINALLY GOT A SHOWER & WASHED MY CLOTHES IN A LAUNDROMAT.

OF COURSE, IT DIDN'T LAST LONG. RIGHT AFTER I LEFT TOWN I WENT FOR A FIVE MILE SCRAMBLE UP MT. DORR / MT. CADILLAC TO TAKE A LOOK AROUND ACADIA NATL PARK. IT WAS INTERESTING HOW, ON THE LOWER HALF OF MT DORR, THEY QUARRIED THE GRANITE ON THE MOUNTAIN TO MAKE STEPS FOR THE PATH JUST AS THEY DID AT ELEPHANT ROCKS IN MISSOURI.

ON THE UPPER HALF THINGS WERE DIFFERENT. THE TRAIL CROSSED OVER A LOT OF EXPOSED GRANITE & WAS MARKED BY SOME BARELY PERCEPTIBLE ORANGE DASHES EVERY 5-10 YARDS OR BY STONE CAIRNS. IT WAS EASY TO GET OFF THE TRAIL, BUT JUST AS EASY TO BLUNDER BACK ON TO IT.

THE WAY UP TO & DOWN FROM CADILLAC MOUNTAIN WAS EQUALLY DIFFICULT TO FOLLOW & JUST AS ^{EASY} ~~HARD~~ TO GET LOST. CADILLAC MTN IS THE HIGHEST PT. ON THE EASTERN SEABOARD AT 1500'. IT WAS ALSO THE DESTINATION OF EVERY RV IN THE PARK, SO I DIDN'T STAY LONG.

(128)

(7785)

ON THE WAY DOWN I MET PROFESSOR WILCOX (OF LSU IN BATON ROUGE) & HIS FAMILY. HE INVITED ME TO COME & VISIT HIM IN LOUISIANA & GIVE ME ADDRESSES OF SOME OF HIS ACQUAINTANCES IN INDIA, BUT I DON'T THINK I'LL MAKE IT DOWN THERE.

ON THE WAY TO BLACKWOODS CAMPGROUND I MET RAY DRIES FROM NEW YORK CITY. IT TURNS OUT THAT HE'S A BICYCLE MESSENGER & CLAIMS TO MAKE \$350/WEEK. ANYWAY, WE DECIDED TO SHARE A SIX-PACK & CAMPSITE FOR THE EVENING, WHICH WAS A PLEASANT CHANGE FROM CAMPING ALONE.

IT SEEMS WE HAD PASSED EACH OTHER OUTSIDE OF ST. JOHN, N.B. A FEW DAYS EARLIER. HE WAS HEADING NORTH & THEN DOWN TO YARMOUTH & BAR HARBOR VIA FERRY WHILE I WAS HEADING SOUTH TO BAR HARBOR.

(9-27-85)

(45m)

I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF BEING IN A CAMPGROUND & SCROUNGED UP A DOLLARS WORTH OF ALUMINUM CANS EARLY IN THE MORNING BEFORE RAY GOT UP.

NEXT WE WENT DOWN TO THE OCEAN TO SCRAMBLE OVER THE ROCKS & WATCH THE WAVES BREAK ON THE SHORE, AS A

(7785)

(128)

HURRICANE MAY PASS THROUGH TODAY.

EVERYTHING SEEMED PRETTY CALM, YET IT STARTED TO RAIN AFTER A WHILE. SINCE THE RANGERS HAD ADVISED US THAT WE'D HAVE TO EVACUATE IF THE STORM HIT BAR HARBOR, I DECIDED TO HEAD ON DOWN THE COAST & SEE WHAT HAPPENED.

THE CLOSER I GOT TO BUCKSPORT THE MORE FREQUENTLY PASSING MOTORISTS WOULD STOP & WARN ME ABOUT THE STORM CLOSING IN. SO I FINALLY DECIDED TO LOOK FOR A PLACE TO STAY THE NIGHT. AT FIRST I TRIED TO GET A HOLD OF THE YOUTH HOSTEL NEAR CARMEL, 25 MI. NORTH OF BUCKSPORT, BUT I COULDN'T GET A LISTING FROM DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE.

I ENDED UP DECIDING TO STAY AT THE JED PROUTY TAVERN & INN AT BUCKSPORT, MAINLY BECAUSE AS I STOOD AT THE DESK THE RAIN STARTED COMING DOWN IN BUCKETS. THE OWNER WAS REAL NICE & ONLY CHARGED ME \$24.50 INSTEAD OF \$30 & I'VE GOT A REAL NICE ROOM WITH A VIEW OF THE STORM.

IT'S REALLY STARTING TO HOWL OUT THERE NOW & THE POWER IS OUT ALREADY.

(128)

(7785)

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN VERY FOOLISH TO TRY CAMPING TONIGHT. I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE ENDED UP WITH A TREE ON TOP OF ME.

WITH THE WAY THE WIND IS BATTERING THE TREES & WITH POWER LINES DOWN, ETC... I'M STARTING TO WONDER IF I'LL BE ABLE TO GET VERY FAR TOMORROW OR NOT. I SUPPOSE THAT THE POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT THERE COULD BE ENOUGH STORM DAMAGE TO CLOSE SOME OF THE ROADS ON & NEAR THE COAST. I GUESS THAT SHOULD BE LEFT FOR TOMORROW'S WORRYING.

THE STORMS GETTING BAD ENOUGH NOW THAT THE LOCAL TEENAGERS HAVE STOPPED CRUISING UP & DOWN THE MAIN DRAG YELLING 'HURRICANE!' OVER & OVER.

IT TURNS OUT THAT THE INN I'M STAYING AT HAS A BIT OF HISTORY TO IT. IT WAS BUILT IN 1798 & HAS BEEN VISITED BY FOUR PAST PRESIDENTS: ANDREW JACKSON, MARTIN VAN BUREN, WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON, & JOHN TYLER.

I GUESS IF I NEED TO FIND SHELTER DURING A BAD STORM AN 18TH CENTURY INN IS ABOUT AS SAFE A PLACE AS CAN BE FOUND.

7830

129

9-28-85

45mi

A LOT OF UNNECESSARY WORRYING HAS TURNED THIS INTO A DISCOURAGING DAY: WORRYING ABOUT RIDING TO PORTLAND IN ONE DAY, WORRYING ABOUT SQUANDERING A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN DOING SO (THE WEATHER TURNED BAD AT MID MORNING, SO NO CHANCE OF THAT), WORRYING ABOUT FINDING A PLACE TO CAMP (IT GETS MORE CROUNDED THE FARTHER SOUTH I GO), WORRYING ABOUT THE HEADWIND I'M RIDING INTO (I'VE HAD ONE FOR WEEKS NOW, BUT NOW IT'S GETTING COLDER), & WORRYING ABOUT WHY I'M NOT HAVING SUCH A GOOD DAY.

SO I'VE DECIDED TO STOP EARLY TODAY. HOPEFULLY I CAN MAKE A FEW MINOR ADJUSTMENTS TO MY ATTITUDE & BE ABLE TO ENJOY A DAY OR TWO OFF WITH DOLG & JENNY IN PORTLAND. I NEED A CHANCE TO REST & GET RE-SUPPLIED & POSSIBLY FIND A PLACE TO HAVE MY SHOES REPAIRED BEFORE MY BIG TOE POKES THROUGH THE NYLON UPPERS.

I JUST REALISED THAT I NEVER STOPPED TO CONSIDER ~~WHETHER~~ WHETHER I NEEDED ANY GROCERIES OR WATER BEFORE I STOPPED HERE. I'VE GOT PLENTY OF FOOD, BUT AM LOW ON WATER, SO I'LL GO SEE HOW CLOSE I AM TO

129

7830

THE RIVER SO I CAN BOIL WHAT I NEED.

NO LUCK FINDING ANY WATER CLOSE BY, BUT I'LL TRY TO SIT TIGHT & GET BY TIL MORNING. I HAVE ABOUT A CUP OF WATER & BY BEING CAREFUL TO AVOID EATING ANYTHING THAT WILL MAKE ME THIRSTY I'M SURE I'LL ~~DO~~ DO ALRIGHT. I'VE BEEN OVEREATING ALL DAY & I HAD A QUART OF ORANGE JUICE ABOUT A HALF HOUR AGO, SO A BIT OF FASTING WILL PROBABLY BE GOOD FOR MY SOUL & I DOUBT IF IT'LL MAKE THE 65 MILES TO PORTLAND ANY TOUGHER.

BY THE WAY, I'M CAMPING ABOUT FIVE MILES SOUTH OF UNION IN A WOODED AREA NEAR Hwy 235. I THINK SOME KIDS SAW MY CAMP FROM THE ROAD; I HOPE THAT'S NOT BAD NEWS.

ONE OF THE THINGS THAT I KNOW HAS HELPED TO MAKE THIS A LESS THAN WONDERFUL DAY FOR ME WAS MY EXPERIENCE WHILE AT MOOSE POINT STATE PARK THIS MORNING.

I WAS PARKED NEXT TO A PICNIC TABLE IN A GROVE OF TREES & TAKING A LOOK AT THE STORM DAMAGE FROM LAST NIGHT WHEN A RANGER PULLED UP. I WALKED OVER TO THE SHORE & POKED AROUND & WAS CONFRONTED BY THE RANGER WHEN I RETURNED.

(7830)

129

HE DIDN'T REALLY LOOK AT ME UNTIL I WAS QUITE CLOSE, & THEN HE LOOKED UP AT ME UNSMILINGLY & ASKED IN AN ACCUSING TONE "~~WHERE~~ WHEN DID YOU GET HERE?" (THERE WAS NO CAMPING ALLOWED IN THE PARK)

I REPLIED ~~TOOK~~ "I JUST GOT HERE," IN A TONE THAT I HOPE CONVEYED MY DISGUST AT THE MAN'S RUDENESS FOR BEING SO JUDGEMENTAL, & NOT BOTHERING TO GIVE ME THE COURTESY OF A SALUTATION. I SAID IT IN WAY THAT I HOPE HE UNDERSTOOD ~~THAT~~ THAT I DIDN'T WISH THE CONVERSATION TO CONTINUE.

HE SENSED MY ANGER & FEIGNED A SMILE & IN A SLIGHTLY MORE HOSPITABLE TONE HE CONTINUED TO HARASS ME WITH "AND WHERE DID ^{YOU} SLEEP LAST NIGHT DURING THE STORM?"

I RESTRAINED MY DESIRE TO TELL HIM TO F--- OFF & DIE. & INSTEAD ANSWERED "IN A HOTEL", PURPOSEFULLY LEAVING OUT THE DETAILS HE WISHED TO HEAR & THEN I TURNED MY BACK ON HIM.

I AMAZED WHEN HE HAD THE GOOD SENSE TO TURN AROUND & LEAVE. IT'S A SHAME HE COULDN'T HAVE DONE SO BEFORE DERAILING A GOOD DAY.

130

(7900)

AT LEAST ONE GOOD THING HAS COME ABOUT TODAY. I FINALLY DISASSEMBLED & CLEANED & ADJUSTED MY BRAKES, & THE DIFFERENCE IS QUITE REMARKABLE. PERHAPS NOW I WON'T HAVE ANY NEAR MISSES WITH TOURIST BUSES. AT LEAST I CAN HOPE.

I WAS TOLD A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO THAT GOOD WEATHER WAS EXPECTED TO FOLLOW THE STORM, BUT IT'S BEEN GETTING WINDIER AS THE DAY PROGRESSES, THOUGH THERE'S BEEN NO RAIN TO SPEAK OF SO FAR. I HOPE THINGS IMPROVE TOMORROW. A TAILWIND WOULD MAKE MY DAY.

(9.29-85)

(70mi)

NO TAILWIND, BUT A GREAT DAY ANYWAY. I HAD A SIDEWIND FOR HALF A DAY & MY ABILITY TO DO ALMOST 15 MILES IN THE FIRST HOUR ~~Really~~ WITHOUT PUSHING HARD DID A LOT TO IMPROVE MY ATTITUDE. AND PLANNING TO STOP EVERY 10-20 MILES WHETHER THERE WAS A REASON TO OR NOT HELPED ALSO.

THE ONLY THING WORTH STOPPING & SEEING TODAY WAS L.L. BEAN IN FREEPORT, BUT EVEN THAT WAS A HUGE TOURIST TRAP. THE ENTIRE TOWN WAS ONE LARGE CONGLOMERATION OF FACTORY OUTLET STORES.

7400

130

ON MY WAY INTO PORTLAND I RAN INTO A CYCLIST NAMED FREDDIE WHO GAVE ME A DRAFT ALL THE WAY TO DOUG & JENNY'S PLACE & ALMOST RAN ME INTO THE GROUND IN DOING SO.

BEING ABLE TO VISIT DOUG & JENNY DID A LOT TO GIVE MY GOOD ATTITUDE THE KICK-START IT NEEDED. IT'S BEEN A BLAST TO VISIT WITH PEOPLE THAT UNDERSTAND WHAT BEING ON THE ROAD IS LIKE & TO SEE PICTURES OF THEIR TRIP, ETC...

I WAS TREATED TO A DINNER THAT INCLUDED MOST OF THE THINGS I MISS ON THE ROAD: BUTTER, FRESH SALAD & LASAGNA! IT'S AMAZING HOW MUCH BETTER THINGS TASTE WITH A LITTLE BUTTER ON THEM.

DOUG & JENNY HAVE A HECTIC SCHEDULE WITH WORK & SCHOOL &, IN FACT, JUST MOVED INTO THIS APARTMENT ~~THIS~~ THIS WEEKEND, SO IT WAS NO SURPRISE THAT THEY HAD TO BE OFF SHORTLY AFTER I ARRIVED.

THEY BOTH WORK AT THE PLANETARIUM AT THE U. OF MAINE & TONIGHT WAS JENNY'S FIRST NIGHT OF NARRATING THE NEW HALLEY'S COMET SHOW WHICH I WENT TO SEE. SHE WAS A BIT NERVOUS, BUT WILL SETTLE DOWN AFTER SHE HAS A BIT MORE PRACTICE.

131

7400

TOMORROW I'LL GET CAUGHT UP ON SHOPPING & TAKE A LOOK AROUND TOWN & POSSIBLY SEE A MOVIE IN THE AFTERNOON.

9:30 85

NO MILES

ANOTHER FANTASTIC DAY!

THE QUALITY OF PASSING TIME IS GREATLY INCREASED WHEN SHARED WITH GOOD FRIENDS LIKE DOUG & JENNY!

THEY HAD TO RUSH OFF TO SCHOOL THIS A.M. & I WAS LEFT ALONE & SO I SPENT THE MORNING & AFTERNOON SHOPPING FOR THE THINGS THAT I NEEDED IN ORDER TO CONTINUE MY TRIP. I ALSO WENT & SAW "KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN", A VERY STRANGE MOVIE, WITH THE AID OF DOUG'S STUDENT I.D. WHICH MADE IT LESS EXPENSIVE.

WHEN I RETURNED, DOUG & I SAT & TALKED FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS ABOUT TRAVELING AROUND THE WORLD & CYCLING IN GENERAL & WHERE ^{WOULD} WE LIKE TO VISIT.

AFTER JENNY ARRIVED WE WENT OUT TO HAVE A GREAT CHINESE DINNER AT HUSHANG'S. WE HAD TOMATO & BEAN CURD SOUP, Schezwan(?) SPICED CHICKEN, GARLIC CHICKEN, & ORANGE FLAVORED SHRIMP. AND WE TOPPED IT ALL OFF WITH HONEY GLAZED FRIED BANANAS - I COULD HAVE EATEN A DOZEN OF 'EM!

8000

132

10-1-85

100 mi

A FANTASTIC DAY!

I STARTED OUT HAVING BREAKFAST WITH DOUG & JENNY, LOOKING AT THE REST OF THE SLIDES & PICTURES OF THEIR TRIP THAT I HADN'T SEEN EARLIER.

AND OF COURSE WE SAID OUR GOODBYES & TOOK PICTURES, ETC... I REALLY GOT A KICK OUT OF SAYING GOODBYE TO JENNY (DOUG HAD LEFT FOR SCHOOL A FEW MINUTES EARLY). I WAS STANDING AT THE DOOR & SHE WAS LEAVING ~~WENT~~ TO GO TO SCHOOL & WAS SO EXCITED & FLUSTERED & BESIDE HERSELF THAT IT WAS ALMOST COMICAL. IT WAS THE MOST GRAPHIC EXAMPLE OF WHAT I'VE EXPERIENCED WITH ALMOST ALL OF THE FOLKS I'VE VISITED - THEY JUST CAN'T DO ENOUGH TO MAKE YOUR TRIP ENJOYABLE.

I MADE IT A POINT TO GET A LATE START TODAY TO AVOID THE TEMPTATION TO PUSH REAL HARD & MAKE IT TO TRAVIS' HOUSE. BUT WITH A FAVORABLE WIND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN OVER TWO WEEKS THE MILES JUST FLEW BY. ~~WE~~ I STOPPED A COUPLE OF TIMES TO READ BESIDE THE ROAD & WAS AS LAZY AS POSSIBLE, BUT EVEN SO, AFTER 7 HOURS I HAD DONE 70 ~~MI~~ MILES, WHICH RECENTLY

132 8000

HAS BEEN THE BEST I COULD DO AFTER NEARLY FLOGGING MYSELF WHILE HEADING INTO THE WIND.

SO I MADE IT TO TRAVIS' HOUSE AFTER A MOSTLY DOWNHILL RIDE IN THE DARK & MET JULIA & CASEY, HIS MOTHER & FATHER, & TRISH HIS SISTER. I WAS GREETED WITH A HOT DINNER & A COLD BEER & MY MAIL, & A LOT OF CHATTERING BY EVERYONE - IT WAS REALLY GREAT!

AFTER WE WERE ALMOST TALKED OUT I WAS GIVEN TIME TO LOOK OVER MY MAIL. I GOT A POSTCARD FROM KEVIN PENNOCK & WAS A BIT SURPRISED THAT ~~HE~~ ^{WITH} HE PARTED COMPANY WITH SYLVIE IN QUÉBEC "THAT 'NO TEARS WERE SHED.'" I ALSO GOT A "LETTER" FROM MIKE WRITTEN ON 2" X 3" NOTEBOOK PAPER, BUT AT LEAST I GOT HIS ADDRESS.

IT FIGURES THAT CHERYL DIDN'T WRITE TO ME. THAT WAS THE ONE DARK CLOUD OVER AN ALMOST PERFECT DAY. I GUESS THAT MEANS I'LL HAVE TO CALL HER SOON.

I WAS SURPRISED THAT I DIDN'T GET ANYTHING FROM THE HOSPITAL, BUT I SUPPOSE THAT AFTER A WHILE IT WOULD BE HARD FOR THEM TO FIND THINGS TO WRITE ABOUT.

IT WAS NICE TO FINALLY GET A POSTCARD FROM

8035

133

ROB & ROSE & TO HEAR SOME NEWS ABOUT MIKE. I WISH HE'D WRITE TO ME.

CASEY & JULIA & I SPENT A LATE EVENING LOOKING AT THE SLIDES THAT TRAVIS TOOK OF HIS TRIP. QUITE A FEW WERE OF PLACES I HAD BEEN OR THAT WE HAD SEEN TOGETHER. I WISH I COULD HAVE A CHANCE TO SEE MY SLIDES NOW & THEN.

THAT ABOUT SHOT THE DAY. I'M SLEEPING IN TRAVIS' ROOM WHICH IS AMUSING. HE'S GOT MODEL AIRPLANES HANGING EVERYWHERE & POSTERS & STICKERS ALL OVER THE WALLS & A PATRIOTIC RED, WHITE, & BLUE BEDSPREAD. YOU REALLY NEED TO SEE IT TO APPRECIATE THE EFFECT.

10-2-85

35 mi

UNFORTUNATELY, THE FORECAST IN GORHAM WASN'T QUITE AS GOOD AS THAT FOR PORTLAND & MOST OF TODAY HAS BEEN RAINY & DREARY, BUT IT'S BEEN A GOOD DAY.

I WAS STUFFED WITH A HUGE BREAKFAST OF SOFT BOILED EGGS, ENGLISH MUFFINS, CANTALOUPE & A PILE OF BACON & I HAD PLENTY OF TIME TO GET MY GEAR IN ORDER & WRITE A COUPLE OF CARDS BEFORE PUSHING OFF INTO THE DRIZZLE (I WOULD HAVE BEEN WELCOME TO STAY LONGER, BUT

134

8115

I WANTED TO HEAD SOUTH RIGHT AWAY).

UNFORTUNATELY THE DRIZZLE & CLOUDS OBSCURED MY VIEWS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL RANGE TODAY. BUT THE WEATHER SHOULD BE FINE TOMORROW THOUGH BY THE TIME THE SUN CLEARS THE MOUNTAINS IT MAY BE TOO LATE.

I'M CAMPED LESS THAN TWO MILES FROM FRANCONIA NOTCH & THE OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAIN, NEXT TO A STEEL CONTAINER FULL OF DYNAMITE BEING USED FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION UP AHEAD.

10-3-85

80 mi

I AWOKE AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME THAT A BIG BURLY CONSTRUCTION WORKER CAME TO PICK UP HIS EXPLOSIVES. I'M NOT SURE WHAT KIND THEY WERE. THEY WEREN'T ^{LIKE} SAUSAGES ^{WITH} ~~CONCRETE~~ WHITE PLASTIC SKINS ABOUT TWO INCHES IN DIAMETER & ABOUT A FOOT LONG. AND THIS GUY TOSSED 'EM INTO HIS PICKUP LIKE A BUTCHER WOULD SLAP A QUARTER OF BEEF ON HIS TABLE, A CASE (OF ABOUT TWO DOZEN) AT A TIME.

I SPOKE WITH HIM BRIEFLY & HE TOLD ME HE WORKED THIRTEEN HOURS A DAY FROM APRIL 'TIL OCTOBER & THEN DAWN TO DUSK

(8115) (134)

THROUGH DECEMBER - WHAT A DRAG!

I WAS FINALLY ABLE TO DO SIGHT-SEEING & ^{TAKE} ~~SEE~~ A FEW PICTURES, AS THE DAY STARTED OUT CLEAR, THOUGH IT GOT VERY CLOUDY LATER IN THE DAY.

I SAW THE OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAIN & THOUGHT I'D LIKE TO SEE THE ~~REVER~~ FLUME, A NARROW 1/2 MILE LONG ROCK CANYON, BUT THE STATE WANTED \$3.50 TO SEE IT, SO I PASSED.

I SPENT THE REST OF THE DAY ENJOYING THE SCENERY & CLIMBING UP A NUMBER OF REASONABLY STEEP HILLS. IT WAS A PLEASURE TO REACH VERMONT TODAY - I'M USUALLY IN A STATE FOR A WEEK OR BETTER. I EXPECT TO BE IN MASSACHUSETTS TOMORROW OR THE NEXT DAY, NEW YORK THE DAY AFTER, NEW JERSEY ONE OR TWO DAYS AFTER THAT, & PENNSYLVANIA THE NEXT DAY.

IT'S A GOOD THING THAT I HAD MY BIVY SAC SENT OUT BEFORE RUSHING OFF & BUYING A NEW TENT. I COULD SURVIVE IN IT FOR THE REMAINDER OF MY TRIP, BUT IT WOULD NOT BE TOO ENJOYABLE AS IT CONDENSES & GETS MY

(135) (8190)

SLEEPING BAG QUITE WET. I'VE OBSERVED THAT AN AWFUL LOT OF CONDENSATION GATHERS AT THE FOOT OF THE BIVY, WHERE I ALSO HAD PROBLEMS WITH MY TENT. I'M HOPING THAT BY BUYING A TENT THAT HAS MORE ROOM FOR AIR TO CIRCULATE AT THAT END THAT I'LL HAVE LESS OF A PROBLEM & THUS A DRYER SLEEPING BAG. I THINK THE EUREKA CRESCENT WOULD FILL THE BILL, SO I'LL START LOOKING FOR ONE TOMORROW.

I'M CAMPING TONIGHT NEAR HARTLAND, VT IN THE WOODS.

(10 4.85)

(75mi)

IT RAINED LAST NIGHT & MY BIVY SAC & SLEEPING BAG ARE PRETTY WELL SOAKED, BUT AT LEAST MY ^{CLEAN} CYCLING CLOTHES WHICH I HAD PUT ON WHILE STILL DAMP LAST NIGHT ARE DRY. OF COURSE WET GEAR IS NO BIG DEAL, UNLESS IT FREEZES TONIGHT WHICH MAY CAUSE PROBLEMS.

I DIDN'T RUN INTO TOO MUCH RAIN TODAY, THOUGH I ENCOUNTERED QUITE A BIT OF HEAVY MIST.

THE WHOLE DAY WAS FAIRLY UNEVENTFUL THOUGH I DID RUN INTO A GROUP ON THE LAST DAY OF A FIVE DAY TOUR.

8260

136

IT WAS KIND OF FUN TALKING WITH THEM & HAVING THEM MAKE A FUSS OF ME.

AFTER A DAY OF SOLIDLY OVERCAST SKIES THERE IS BEGINNING TO BE SOME PARTIAL CLEARING. PERHAPS I'LL HAVE CLEAR SKIES IN WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS AS I HAD HOPED.

I'M CAMPING TONIGHT AT SHAFTSBURY STATE PARK (IT'S CLOSED FOR THE SEASON). HOPEFULLY I'LL CAMP IN MASSACHUSETTS TOMORROW AFTER A SHOWER & LAUNDRY IN BENNINGTON.

10-5-85

70mi

IT SEEMED AS THOUGH IT WAS TRYING TO BE A GOOD DAY TODAY, BUT IT DIDN'T MAKE IT. THE SUNRISE ~~WAS~~ VACILLATED BETWEEN DREARY & SPECTACULAR, BUT AS MORNING WORE ON DREARY WON OUT.

I DID MY LAUNDRY AT BENNINGTON & ALSO MANAGED TO GET A GREAT SHOWER AT THE TOWN POOL FOR A BUCK. AS I WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE THE POOL A THUNDERSTORM LET LOOSE & RAIN CAME DOWN IN BUCKETS & THE WIND WAS BENDING TREES NORTHWARD WITH EASE.

136

8260

STRANGELY ENOUGH IT ONLY LASTED A FEW MINUTES. THE RAIN LIGHTENED & CONTINUED, BUT THE WIND DIED DOWN & LIGHTNING STOP AS SUDDENLY AS IT BEGAN.

THE ONLY EFFECT THE STORM HAD ON ME WAS THAT IT FLOODED THE STREETS & AT ONE INTERSECTION I COASTED BETWEEN TWO STALLED CARS STANDING IN ABOUT TEN INCHES OF WATER. MY FRONT PANNIERS TOOK ON A BIT OF WATER, BUT NO HARM DONE.

I WAS PLEASANTLY SURPRISED WHEN I TOOK A SIDE ROAD ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE TACONIC RANGE IN MASSACHUSETTS. IN VERMONT & NEW HAMPSHIRE SIDE ROADS MEAN STEEP HILLS, BUT THIS ROAD WAS UP A WIDE VALLEY WITH ROLLING HILLS. HOPEFULLY I'LL HAVE EASY RIDING THE NEXT FEW DAYS TO PHILADELPHIA.

WELL, IT'S BEEN A THREE STATE DAY TODAY. I'VE ENDED UP IN NEW YORK JUST SOUTH OF A TOWN CALLED GHENT. I CAMPED NEXT TO AN ABANDONED HOUSE & THE PROPERTY IS POSTED "NO

(8345)

137

"TRESPASSING", BUT I DIDN'T SEE MUCH ELSE ALONG THE WAY.

I SURE HOPE IT'S WARM & SUNNY TOMORROW.

(10-6-85)

(85mi)

THE WEATHER SURE WAS SCREWY TODAY, BUT FOR THE MOST PART IT'S BEEN WARM & SUNNY ALL DAY. THE SCREWY PART WAS A BUNCH OF OMINOUS LOOKING GREY CLOUDS THAT SWARMED THROUGH THE SKY ABOUT MID-AFTERNOON THAT KICKED UP A PRETTY GOOD HEADWIND FOR ME. I RODE INTO ^{IT} FOR ABOUT ^{AN HOUR AND A HALF} ~~SCREWY~~, DAY-DREAMING TO AVOID THINKING ABOUT THE WIND, & THEN SUDDENLY IT JUST DISAPPEARED OVER A MOUNTAIN BEHIND ME & ~~SCREWY~~ IT BECAME CALM & SUNNY AGAIN. I THOUGHT THAT SURELY I'D GET WET BEFORE IT PASSED ME.

I'VE JUST BLASTED ALONG TODAY, SUPPOSEDLY I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING THE OLD DELAWARE & HUDSON CANAL FOR ABOUT HALF THE DAY, BUT YOU HAVE TO LOOK CLOSE & USE YOUR IMAGINATION TO FIND IT. IT WAS ABANDONED IN 1899 & THE ONE LOOK I SAW WAS LITTLE MORE THAN A HOLE LINED WITH GRANITE BLOCKS WITH TREES GROWING OUT OF IT.

I'M CAMPING A FEW MILES SOUTH OF SUMMITVILLE, NY IN A CLUMP OF PINE TREES

138

(8420)

(MY FAVORITE KIND: HIGH BRANCHES & LOTS OF SOFT NEEDLES ON THE GROUND) NEAR Hwy 209. I'M ABOUT 25 MILES FROM PENNSYLVANIA & NEW JERSEY.

I FOUND A PRESENT FOR MOM TODAY: A GREEN GLASS TELEPHONE WIRE INSULATOR. IT LOOKS PRETTY OLD, THOUGH I DOUBT IF IT'S WORTH ANYTHING. HOPEFULLY IT'LL WILL BE OF USE AS A PAPERWEIGHT OR KNICK-KNACK.

I OVERHEARD A WEATHER FORECAST EARLIER IN THE DAY THAT CALLED FOR CLEAR SKIES & A LOW OF 36-42° - YUK! WITH MY LUCK, BEING OUT IN THE BOONIES WILL MEAN 36°, INSTEAD OF 42°. I'VE GOT MY SWEAT PANTS STANDING BY IN MY SLEEPING BAG IF IT GETS TOO COLD.

(10-7-85)

(75mi)

A VERY PLEASANT DAY RIDING THROUGH THE CORN FIELDS OF NEW JERSEY. ~~THE~~

IT'S TAKEN ME A WHILE, BUT IT'S FINALLY BEGINNING TO SINK INTO MY THICK HEAD THAT AMERICA IS AN AGRICULTURAL NATION. EVEN HERE IN THE "INDUSTRIAL NORTHEAST" FARMS ARE EVERYWHERE. OF COURSE, IN NEW YORK THERE'S AN ABANDONED CEMENT FACTORY OR GARAGE AFTER ABOUT EVERY FIFTH FARM,

10-29-85 - I GAVE IT TO MOM & GAVE IT TO HER COLLECTION. THE PINE, VA TO HOD TO THEIR COLLECTION.

(8490)

139

BUT RURAL AREAS ABOUND?, IN FACT, THEY DOMINATE THE LANDSCAPE.

ONE OTHER OBSERVATION ABOUT NEW YORK: IT HAS GOT TO BE THE ^{2nd} "DEAD ANIMAL LYING ALONG THE ROADSIDE" CAPITAL OF THE U.S.A. I FIND DEAD ANIMALS MORE OFTEN IN NEW YORK THAN ANY OTHER STATE I'VE BEEN IN. THEIR SPECIALTY (ANIMAL DU JOUR) IS POSSUM PANCAKES.

I HAD A ~~GOOD~~ ^{GREAT} RIDE THROUGH PENNSYLVANIA & NEW JERSEY TODAY IN DELAWARE WATER GAP NAT'L REC. AREA. IT MAINLY FOLLOWED THE DELAWARE RIVER THROUGH A STEEP-SIDED VALLEY ALONG NARROW ROADSWITH VERY LITTLE TRAFFIC. OF COURSE GETTING OUT OF THE VALLEY WAS NO PICNIC, I'D GUESS THE GRADES TO BE 12-15% & THE VERTICAL GAIN AT CLOSE TO 1500'.

I'M CAMPING SOUTH OF HOPE, N.J. ON A HILLSIDE IN A CLUMP OF TREES. I'M SURE IT'LL BE AT LEAST AS COLD TONIGHT AS IT WAS LAST NIGHT, BUT WHO CARES AS LONG AS THE SUN SHINES.

(10-8-85)

(70mi)

A PRETTY FOGGY MORNING, WHICH MEANT A VERY COLD RIDE.

139

(8490)

AS I WAS RIDING ALONG TODAY I GOT TO THINKING ABOUT MEETING FRED & THELMA VOGEL FOR THE FIRST TIME; ABOUT MY APPEARANCE. I STOPPED AT McDONALD'S & LOOKED IN THE MIRROR AT TWO WEEKS GROWTH OF BEARD WHICH WAS GROWING UNEVENLY & WAS FULL OF BALD SPOTS & DECIDED IT HAD TO GO. I WALKED NEXT DOOR & BOUGHT SOME RAZORS & WENT AT IT & FINALLY HAD IT ALL SCRAPED OFF AFTER ABOUT HALF AN HOUR.

NEEDLESS TO SAY I NOTICED AN ALMOST IMMEDIATE CHANGE IN PEOPLE'S ATTITUDES TO ME. IT'LL PROBABLY BE A GOOD IDEA TO STAY CLEAN CUT ON MY WAY THROUGH THE SOUTH.

THE GOAL TODAY WAS TO MAKE IT TO PEDAL-PUSHER SKI & SPORT & POSSIBLY REPLACE MY BIKE. I'VE BEEN CONSIDERING CHANGING MY HUBS FROM SEALED BEARING TO CONVENTIONAL & TOGETHER WITH THE OTHER REPAIRS I NEED IT WOULD BE CHEAPER TO BUY A NEW BIKE IF I GOT A TRADE-IN ON MY OLD BIKE.

AS IT TURNED OUT, I WAS CONVINCED TO BUY PHIL WOOD BOTTOM BRACKET & HUBS, WHICH ARE MADE OF STAINLESS STEEL & ARE VIRTUALLY INDESTRUCTIBLE. BY DOING SO I DON'T NEED TO CARRY ANY SPARE PARTS & I CAN CARRY CARRY THREE FEWER TOOLS THAN I HAVE BEEN

(8490) (39)

CARRYING: TWO SPANNERS & ONE CONE WRENCH.

IF I HAD KNOWN THAT SOONER, I WOULD HAVE REPLACED 'EM SOONER. SIMPLICITY & DURABILITY ARE OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE ON THIS TOUR.

My BOTTOM BRACKET WAS REPLACED WHILE I WAITED & I WAS GIVEN A LOANER FRONT WHEEL TO BE ABLE TO GET TO THE VOGEL'S HOUSE IN CHALFONT WHILE MY FRONT WHEEL WAS BEING REBUILT & I WILL RIDE BACK TO PS'S (IN HORSHAM) TOMORROW & THEY WILL REBUILD MY REAR WHEEL THEN. IF I CAN CATCH A BUS INTO PHILLY I'LL DO A BIT OF SIGHTSEEING IN THE MORNING & WHEN MY BIKE IS READY I'LL HEAD TO DOUGLASSVILLE WHERE HOPEFULLY I CAN SPEND SOME TIME WITH DIANE MARTIN'S* FOLKS.

I FOUND OUT THAT THE VOGEL'S SON, DON, WHO I MET BETWEEN FLORENCE & EUGENE, OR IS IN ITALY NOW DOING MISSIONARY WORK & WILL BE IN ITALY FOR FOUR YEARS, SO NOW I HAVE A POTENTIAL MAIL STOP TO PICK-UP FILM & MONEY. HE'LL BE IN MILAN, IN THE NORTH, BUT HOPEFULLY HE'LL KNOW SOMEONE IN THE SOUTH THAT I CAN ALSO USE AS A MAILSTOP WHICH WOULD BE JUST WHAT I NEED AFTER TOURING NORTH AFRICA.

(40) (8535)

THE VOGEL'S ARE REALLY GREAT PEOPLE & THEY TRAVEL A LOT & SO I GAVE THEM MOM'S ADDRESS & TOLD 'EM TO STOP BY WHEN THEY VISIT SEATTLE NEXT YEAR.

WHEN I ARRIVED AT THEIR HOUSE I WAS TREATED TO A GREAT DINNER OF ROAST BEEF, BROCCOLI W/ CHEESE SAUCE, RICE & SALAD, WITH A SORT OF BUNDT CAKE & ICE CREAM FOR DESSERT. IT'S A GOOD THING THEY DIDN'T ASK ME FOR SECONDS ON DESSERT AS I CAN BE EXTREMELY GLUTTONOUS WHEN IT COMES TO ICE CREAM.

WE SPENT A LARGE PART OF THE EVENING TALKING ABOUT DON'S TRIP & ABOUT MY FUTURE PLANS & ABOUT PLACES WE'D ~~BE~~ ALL BEEN BEFORE & IT WAS LATE BEFORE WE KNEW IT. I RETIRED TO A WARM BED ONCE AGAIN AFTER A TAKING A MUCH NEEDED HOT SHOWER.

(10-9-85)

(45mi)

A SUPER DAY!

FRED & THELMA LAUNCHED ME OUT THE DOOR WITH A GOOD BREAKFAST & GOOD WISHES. AND I GOT DON'S ADDRESS IN ITALY.

THE GUYS AT PS'S WERE GREAT TO ME. THEY FINISHED BUILDING MY WHEELS & I TEST DROVE IT FOR CLOSE TO AN HOUR & THEN

8535

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THEY RETURED THEM FOR ME TO SAVE ME THE EXPENSE OF HAVING TO DO THAT A COUPLE HUNDRED MILES DOWN THE ROAD. PLUS THEY INJECTED MY FREEWHEEL WITH WATERPROOF GREASE & GAVE ME A CHANCE TO CLEAN IT, THEY ADJUSTED MY REAR DERAILLEUR FOR FREE & STRAIGHTENED MY DROPOUT, THEY ADJUSTED MY FRONT BRAKES FOR FREE, & I GOT A FREE EXTRA LONG 6MM ALLEN WRENCH FOR ADJUSTING MY CRANK ARMS.

MY NEW WHEELS ARE GREAT! THE NEW PHIL WOOD SEALED BEARING HUBS ARE MADE OF HEAVY DUTY STAINLESS STEEL THAT IS ALMOST INDESTRUCTIBLE. WHEN I CALLED THE GUY AT PHIL WOOD TO ASK ABOUT HOW LONG I COULD EXPECT THE BEARINGS TO LAST HE SAID THAT I'D "WEAR OUT BEFORE THEY DID" EVEN AFTER I TOLD HIM I MIGHT BE CYCLING 30,000 - 40,000 MILES ON THEM! ~~THE~~ THE WHEELS ARE LACED UP WITH D.T. SPOKES - THE MOST DURABLE MADE & THE REAR HUB ^{IS} DISHLESS WHICH BASICALLY MEANS THAT THE SPOKES ARE EVENLY TENSIONED ON BOTH SIDES OF THE WHEEL WHICH MEANS I SHOULD HAVE FEWER BROKEN SPOKES FROM

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8535

NOW ON. AND AS IF THAT ISN'T ENOUGH, THE HUBS ARE CONELESS & SO I CAN SAVE A BIT OF WEIGHT BY SENDING HOME ONE OF MY CONE WRENCHES.

MY NEW PHIL WOOD SEALED BOTTOM BRACKET IS EQUALLY GREAT. IT'S BOMB-PROOF ALSO & BECAUSE OF THE WAY IT'S CONSTRUCTED I NO LONGER NEED MY TWO B/B SPANNERS - I ONLY NEED A TINY LITTLE TOOL THAT ONLY WEIGHS A QUARTER AS MUCH!

IF I HAD KNOWN HOW DURABLE & SIMPLE PHIL WOOD STUFF WAS BEFORE I LEFT I WOULD HAVE HAD MY BIKE SWITCHED OVER THEN INSTEAD OF NOW, BUT I'M SURE IT'S COST ME A LOT LESS THIS WAY.

I SPENT THE BETTER PART OF THE AFTER-NOON TRYING TO TRAVERSE THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNTRYSIDE FROM HORSHAM TO POTTSTOWN WHICH WAS NO EASY TASK AS THE MAIN ROADS ALL SEEM TO RUN THE WRONG WAY. BUT I MADE IT, EVEN AFTER STOPPING IN NORRISTOWN AT AAA TO PICK UP SOME MAPS.

ROBERT & BETY SCHUR, DIANE MARTIN'S PARENTS WERE EXPECTING ME TO ARRIVE IN TOWN ^{AT} ABOUT 4:30, BUT I DIDN'T MAKE IT 'TIL 6:15. BUT THEY

8535

14A

drove INTO TOWN & PICKED ME UP & BROUGHT ME HOME & FED ME. MY BIKE IS SITTING OUT IN THEIR FRONT ROOM RIGHT NOW, TOGETHER WITH ALL THE REST OF MY GEAR, PRETTY MUCH BLOCKING THE ENTRANCE TO THE HOUSE.

10-10-85

28 mi

A VERY PRODUCTIVE DAY.

I GOT MY CLOTHES WASHED, MY SLEEPING BAG CLEANED, MY BLUE PAD SCRUBBED, GOT THE PHONE # & ADDRESSES OF MOST OF THE EMBASSIES I WANT TO VISIT IN D.C., CALLED CANNONDALE & SPECIALIZED & CONFIRMED THAT THEY WOULD REPLACE THE DEFECTIVE SHOES & PANNIER I HAVE, CALLED CHERYL & GOT HER TO SAY THAT SHE'D START PAYING ME BACK, BALANCED MY CHECKBOOK, PICKED UP MY MAIL, RAN MY ROUTE TO FLORIDA, & UPDATED MY ADDRESS BOOK.

BOB DROVE ME AROUND TO ACCOMPLISH MOST OF THOSE THINGS & TOOK ME TO HIS BROTHERS' DINER FOR A COUPLE OF HOAGIES. HE ALSO HELPED ME LOOK FOR A NEW TENT, BUT WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY LUCK AS MOST PLACES HAVE NOT REORDERED ANY SINCE IT'S TOO LATE IN THE SEASON.

ON HER WAY HOME FROM WORK, BETTY

14B 8610

BROUGHT US SOME GREAT CHINESE FOOD: CHOW MEIN, MOOGOO GUY PAN (?), EGG ROLLS, WON TON SOUP, & LOTS OF OTHER GOODIES. THAT PRETTY MUCH TOPPED OFF A PERFECT DAY.

BOB & BETTY HAVE REALLY BEEN GREAT TO ME. THERE ARE A LOT OF LITTLE THINGS THEY'VE DONE TO HELP ME & MAKE ME FEEL AT HOME & IT'S UNFORTUNATE THAT I'M RUSHING ALONG & DON'T HAVE TIME TO KEEP TRACK OF EVERYTHING IN MY JOURNAL.

10-11-85

75 mi

I GOT GOING TODAY AT 9:30 AFTER PACKING ALL MY GEAR & REPAIRING A STRAP ON MY KANGAROO BAGGS PANNIERS.

I VISITED HOPEWELL VILLAGE TODAY & REALLY ENJOYED IT. I IMAGINED IT WOULD BE A REPLICA OF AN OLD AMISH SETTLEMENT OR SOMETHING & WAS SURPRISED TO FIND THAT IT WAS AN 18th CENTURY FORGE (OR FOUNDRY).

AT LONG LAST I HAVE SOME IDEA OF WHAT MIKE WAS TALKING ABOUT WHEN HE'D DESCRIBE THE FOUNDRY TO ME.

IT WAS PRETTY FASCINATING HOW THEY MADE THE IRON. THEY GOT THE IRON ORE FROM

(8610) 142

THE NEARBY HILLS & HEATED THE FURNACES WITH CHARCOAL MADE BY BURNING HUGE PILES OF HARDWOOD WHICH WERE CUT BY LABORERS WHO WERE PAID 30¢ A CORD.

ONCE THE CHARCOAL WAS IN THE FURNACE THE FLAMES WERE INTENSIFIED BY FORCING AIR IN VIA A WATERWHEEL-POWERED BELLOW.

IT WAS INTERESTING HOW THEY WOULD DIG SHALLOW TROUGHS IN THE SOIL & POUR THE MOLTEN IRON OUT OF THE FURNACE INTO THEM TO MAKE PIG IRON. BUT THE WAY THEY MADE MOULDS WAS EVEN BETTER. THEY WOULD MAKE PATTERNS OUT OF WOOD WHICH WERE SORT OF PRESSED INTO WET SAND TO GET AN IMPRESSION WHICH WOULD BE WHAT THE HOT IRON WOULD BE POURED INTO.

THERE WAS ALMOST TOO MUCH TO SEE THERE. THEY HAD A WATER POWERED HAMMER WITH A 585 POUND HEAD WHICH THEY USED TO MAKE WROUGHT IRON WHICH IS STRONGER THAN CAST IRON. POUNDING IT TOOK OUT A LOT OF THE CARBON WHICH MADE THE IRON WEAK.

AFTER LEAVING HOPEWELL I SOON CAME INTO AMISH COUNTRY WITH THE MANY SMALL FARMS & HORSE & BUGGY RIGS. I STOPPED AT A GREAT SUPERMARKET ABOUT 10 MILES OUT OF LANCASTER & PICKED UP SOME BLUEBERRY BREAD & SOME GREAT

143 (8670)

SOFT SUGAR COOKIES. I ALSO GOT 1/2 DOZEN DEVILED EGGS, SO IT'S A GOOD THING I'M NOT SLEEPING INDOORS TONIGHT.

I SAW VERY FEW PLACES TO FREE CAMP TODAY, BUT I DID MANAGE TO FIND A NOT- SO-GREAT SPOT ABOUT A MILE OR TWO FROM WEST YORK. IT ALMOST MAKES ME RELUCTANT TO GIVE UP MY BUV AS IT'S GREAT FOR CAMPING IN MARGINAL PLACES LIKE THIS, BUT I'D BE MISERABLE IN IT IF IT RAINED HARD OR IF THERE WERE ANY MOSQUITOES AROUND.

OH YEAH, I HAD TWO CLOSE CALLS WITH CARS TODAY WHICH IS VERY UNUSUAL. ONE GUY DIDN'T SEEM TO BE PAYING ATTENTION & THE OTHER WAS AN OLD GUY WHO DIDN'T SEE ME. I HOPE IT WAS ONLY DUE TO HEAVY TRAFFIC ON THE BEGINNING OF A NICE WEEKEND & NOT BECAUSE THE DRIVERS AROUND HERE ARE JUST NATURALLY CARELESS.

(10-12-85)

(80m)

IT'S BEEN A COOL & CLOUDY DAY TODAY & I'VE HAD TO WEAR LONG PANTS ALL DAY LONG.

I STOPPED AT GETTYSBERG NAT'L MILITARY PARK TODAY & LOOKED AROUND A BIT. I EVEN PAID GOOD MONEY TO SEE THE "ELECTRIC MAP" (IT WAS WORTH IT) WHICH SHOWED THE HIGHLIGHTS

(8570) 

OF THE THREE DAY BATTLE. ~~AND~~ IT WAS A LOT EASIER THAN RIDING THROUGH THE ENTIRE PARK & READING THE INSCRIPTIONS ON THE MONUMENTS TO GET THE SAME INFORMATION.

NOT MUCH ELSE HAPPENED TODAY. I GOT OFF ON SOME UNNUMBERED BACKROADS FOR A WHILE TODAY & THAT WAS FUN SINCE EVERYONE I RAN INTO WAS REAL SURPRISED TO SEE ME RIDE BY.

I'M CAMPING ~~WHEREVER~~ SOUTH OF MONROVIA, MD A COUPLE HUNDRED YARDS FROM A SMALL SPEEDWAY, LISTENING TO THE ANNOUNCER CALL THE RACES. HOPEFULLY THINGS WILL ~~QUICK~~ ^{QUIET} DOWN ONCE IT'S OVER. I SAW SO FEW CAMPING PLACES ON THE WAY HERE THAT I WASN'T TOO CONCERNED BY THE NOISE.

I JUST NOTICED TODAY THAT WHEN BRAD AT PS'S REBUILT MY WHEEL THAT HE PUT HEAVIER SPOKES IN, PROBABLY 13 GA (MAYBE EVEN 12 GA). I'VE GOT A FEELING THAT IF I BUY 4-5 REPLACEMENT SPOKES THEY'LL PROBABLY LAST THE REST OF THE WAY AROUND THE WORLD.

(10-13-85)

IT'S BEEN A GREAT DAY!

NOTHING HAPPENED FROM MONROVIA TO ROCKVILLE EXCEPT FOR SOME PRETTY STIFF HEAD & SIDE WINDS.

I PASSED THROUGH ROCKVILLE & HEADED FOR C/O NAT'L CANAL PARK, LOOKING FOR THE BIKE ROUTE THAT LEAH HAD SAID SHE & BOB HAD FOUND THAT WOULD TAKE ME INTO THE CITY & AVOID MOST OF THE TRAFFIC, WHICH I CONSIDERED TO BE PRETTY HEAVY, ESPECIALLY FOR A SUNDAY.

ONCE I GOT TO THE PARK, I MET JOHN & IAN & ASKED THEM FOR HELP. JOHN RUSHED OFF SINCE HE WAS IN A HURRY TO GET HOME, BUT IAN SAID HE'D TAKE ME INTO THE CITY & SHOW ME AROUND THE MALL & HELP ME FIND THE HOSTEL.

IAN ASTEN WORKS FOR ^{CLUB'S} ~~MC~~ MAGAZINE (THE CANADIAN VERSION OF TIME) AS A REPORTER COVERING MAINLY ECONOMIC & FINANCIAL NEWS. HE'S AN AVID CYCLIST, HAVING JUST PARTICIPATED IN A 1000-MILE RANDONNEE IN CANADA & HE IS A MEMBER OF THE CANADIAN NAT'L TEAM THAT WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE SPENCO 500 IN 2-3 WEEKS.

WE PRACTICALLY FLEW THROUGH THE SUBURBS

8720

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ON OUR WAY TO HIS PLACE IN GEORGETOWN WHERE WE STOPPED FOR A BITE TO EAT ON OUR WAY TO THE CAPITAL. ONCE WE GOT STARTED AGAIN WE RACED ALONG, PASSING WATERGATE, THE HOSTEL (WHERE I'M SPENDING THE NIGHT), MOST OF THE SMITHSONIAN MUSEUMS (GIVE ME TIPS ON WHICH ONES WERE WORTH SEEING), THE NAT'L ART GALLERY, WASHINGTON MONUMENT, CAPITOL HILL, ETC...

IT WAS A BLAST FOLLOWING HIM AS WE WEAVED OUR WAY THROUGH A MAZE OF BUSES & CARS. I ONLY WISH I COULD HAVE GOTTEN A PICTURE OR TWO OF HIM TWISTING THROUGH THE CANYON OF IDLING TOUR BUSES.

THE TOUR WAS SOON OVER & IAN WAS ON HIS WAY TO HELP A FRIEND PAINT HER HOUSE, BUT NOT BEFORE EXCHANGING ADDRESSES & INVITING ME TO SPEND THE NIGHT AT HIS PLACE ON TUESDAY, THE FIRST NIGHT HE HAD FREE.

AFTER VISITING THE OLD POST OFFICE, THE WASHINGTON, LINCOLN, & VIETNAM MEMORIALS, & PASSING BY THE WHITE HOUSE, I RETURNED TO THE HOSTEL TO CHECK IN. ALMOST IMMEDIATELY I MET MAUREEN MAART WHO HAD BEEN CYCLING & TAKING ANTRAC ALONG THE COAST & IS HEADING FOR BOSTON.

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8720

I WAS SURPRISED WHEN SHE ASKED ME IF I'D LIKE TO JOIN ~~them~~ HER & HER FRIENDS AS THEY LOOKED FOR SOME ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT. IT WAS A BIT PAST SIX & WE AGREED TO MEET AT SEVEN IN THE LOBBY.

SHE FINALLY SHOWED UP AROUND EIGHT & I MET HER FRIENDS MAUREEN, ^(SARGE) YORK, & MIKE & WE WALKED TOWARD GEORGETOWN & THE BRICKS-KELLER^{A TAVERN}, WHOSE CLAIM TO FAME WAS THE FACT THAT THEY SELL OVER 500 DIFFERENT TYPES OF BEER.

IT WAS FUN TO TRY TO PICK OUT A BEER FROM SUCH A LARGE LIST & I MANAGED TO PERSUADE MAUREEN INTO BUYING A BOTTLE OF CHERRY BEER FROM BELGIUM SINCE I WAS SORE I WOULDN'T WANT TO DRINK A BOTTLE OF IT BUT WAS CURIOUS TO HAVE A TASTE. IT TURNED OUT THAT SHE DIDN'T WANT TO DRINK THE WHOLE THING EITHER.

ON OUR WAY BACK TO THE HOSTEL WE STOPPED TO WATCH A STREET BAND, "THE NW YOUNGENS", A GROUP OF BLACKS PLAYING ON MOSTLY IMPROVISED INSTRUMENTS, THE MOST NOTABLE OF WHICH WERE SEVERAL INVERTED FIVE GALLON PLASTIC BECKERS. IT WAS GREAT FUN WATCHING THEIR UNREFINED CHOREOGRAPHY & AN OC-

(8720)

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CASSIONAL PASSER-BY STOPPING TO DANCE TO THEIR MUSIC.

WE (MAUREEN & I) TOOK OFF ON A MIDNIGHT BIKE RIDE TO THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL WHICH LASTED TIL ABOUT 4 A.M. WHILE WE WERE THERE WE SAW THREE GUYS GET ARRESTED FOR CLIMBING ON ABE'S LAP, LISTENED TO A FLUTIST WHILE WATCHING THE LIGHTED REFLECTION OF THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT IN THE REFLECTING POOL, & TALKED FOR QUITE A WHILE WITH THREE GUYS FROM CLEVELAND WHO WERE INTERESTED IN BICYCLE TOURING.

WE FINISHED OFF A PERFECT DAY BY RIDING BACK TO THE HOSTEL IN THE HAZE THAT WAS DEVELOPING OVER THE POOLS OF THE MALL.

(10.14.85)

(NO MILES)

WE HIT THE ROAD ABOUT 10 A.M. IN THE RAIN. IT WAS CRYSTAL CLEAR WHEN WE LEFT THE MALL YESTERDAY & IT WAS SURPRISING TO FIND THE WET WEATHER & OVERCAST SKIES.

WE FIRST WENT TO THE OLD POST OFFICE TO SEE THE VIEW FROM THE TOWER WHICH IS SUPPOSED TO BE BETTER THAN THAT FROM THE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL.

NEXT WE SAW THE ANSEL ADAMS EXHIBIT

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(8720)

AT THE NAT'L ART GALLERY, THEN VISITED THE AIR & SPACE MUSEUM, & SAW THE IMAX FILM "THE DREAM IS ALIVE". WE ALSO VISITED THE SCULPTURE GARDEN & MUSEUM OF ART, INDUSTRY BEFORE COMING HOME TO A DINNER OF GRANKLA & BANANAS.

WE SPENT THE EVENING WALKING AROUND TOWN & WENT TO SEE A MOVIE "SWEET DREAMS" ABOUT THE LIFE OF PATSY CLINE.

MAUREEN REALLY SEEMS TO LIKE ME, & IT MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO KNOW WHAT TO DO ABOUT MOVING ON. SHE'S REALLY CUTE, & SMART - A ~~blend~~ BLEND OF QUALITIES THAT ARE TOO RARE: THOSE KIND OF WOMEN ARE USUALLY MARRIED OR DIVORCED. (w/ kids) SHE'S A LOT OF FUN TO BE WITH, & I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT I LIKE HER SO MUCH THAT I'VE ASKED HER TO RIDE AT LEAST AS FAR AS FLORIDA WITH ME. THAT'S JUST NOT LIKE ME. I IMAGINE THAT IF SHE SAYS 'NO' (SHE'S THINKING ABOUT IT) THAT IT'LL BE A MISERABLE COUPLE OF WEEKS AFTER LEAVING D.C.

I EVEN CONSIDERED STAYING NEAR D.C. & FINDING A JOB IN ORDER TO PERSUADE HER TO STAY, BUT I FEEL I HAVE TO GET TO GRANDMA'S WHILE I'M ON THE COAST OR I'LL NEVER MAKE IT.

8720

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10-15-85 TO
10-18-85

NO MILES

IT'S BEEN A PRETTY CRAZY WEEK.

I WAS TRYING AWFUL HARD TO CONVINCE MAUREEN TO GO TO FLORIDA. IN FACT HAD HER SAYING 'YES' AT ONE TIME. WE EVEN RODE OVER TO ARLINGTON TO A CAMPING SUPPLY STORE. I HAD PICKED OUT ALL THE EQUIPMENT WE WOULD NEED; BUT WE CHANGED OUR MINDS AT THE LAST MINUTE & WENT HOME EMPTY HANDED.

WE'VE HAD A GREAT TIME TOGETHER & HAVE EVEN MANAGED TO DO SOME ADDITIONAL SIGHT-SEEING: THE JEFFERSON MEMORIAL AT NIGHT, ROOSEVELT ISLAND, & SOME OF THE MORE NOTABLE HISTORIC BUILDINGS ALONG PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. BUT MOSTLY WE JUST TALKED & GOT TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER. IT SEEMED NORMAL TO TALK UNTIL 4:00 AM & THEN GET UP AT 10:00 AM & TALK SOME MORE.

I REALLY ADMIRE MAUREEN. SHE MAKES SOME QUALITY DECISIONS, OR AT LEAST THEY'RE BETTER THAN THE ONES I MAKE, & I'M PRETTY ENVIOUS OF THE FACT. IT'S OBVIOUS THAT SHE MAKES A LOT OF DECISIONS THAT INVOLVE OTHER PEOPLE, THAT I ONLY DECIDE FOR MYSELF WHICH PROBABLY EXPLAINS WHY THINGS WOULD HAVE BEEN A REAL MESS

150

8720

IF WE HAD DONE THINGS MY WAY.

SHE REALLY DOES AMAZE ME. I HAD BEGUN TO THINK THAT I WAS A PRETTY POSITIVE PERSON, BUT SHE'S LIGHT YEARS AHEAD OF ME ON THAT COUNT, TOO. SHE'S ALWAYS GOT SOMETHING GOOD TO SAY ABOUT PEOPLE, WHEREAS I'M STILL SHACKLED BY THINKING IN STEREOTYPES THAT COMES FROM TOO MANY YEARS OF BEING SEDENTARY & ~~NOT~~ UNSOCIABLE & NOT FINDING OUT FOR MYSELF WHAT THE WORLD IS REALLY LIKE. SHE'S GIVEN ME A LOFTIER PURPOSE & NEW GOALS FOR MY WORLD TRAVELS.

I SMILE ALL THE TIME I'M WITH HER BECAUSE SHE'S SO VIVACIOUS & POSITIVE. AND IT'S INFECTIOUS. I SEE PEOPLE ALL AROUND US LIGHT UP WHEN WE LOOK AT THEM & I HOPE THAT SOME OF THAT WILL STAY WITH ME WHEN WE GO OUR SEPARATE WAYS.

IF I WERE TO THINK ABOUT WHICH PART OF MY TRIP WAS THE MOST EVENTFUL SO FAR ON MY JOURNEY, I'D SAY BEYOND ANY DOUBT THAT MY STAY IN D.C. WAS. I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN & ADMITTED THAT I HAVE SHORTCOMINGS, BUT IT'S NEVER BEEN SO CLEAR TO ME WHAT THEY ARE, & IF THERE WAS ANY PURPOSE AT ALL TO STARTING

8720

150

MY TRIP IT WAS ~~TO~~ WITH THE GOAL OF GROWING INTO A BETTER PERSON ALONG THE WAY. I'LL DO MY BEST NOT TO SQUANDER THIS OPPORTUNITY.

MAUREEN, I DECIDED TO LIVE IT UP & TRY THE DECADENT LIFE FOR A SHORT TIME. WE WASTED TO SPEND ~~RECEIVE~~ A NIGHT IN A LUXURY HOTEL ROOM AS LONG AS WE COULD AFFORD IT, AS LONG AS IT WAS SPECIAL & NOT JUST EXPENSIVE. WE LUCKED OUT & FOUND A GREAT ROOM IN THE WELLINGTON IN GEORGETOWN FOR \$116.00/NIGHT. IT WAS IN THE EXECUTIVE SECTION ON THE EIGHTH FLOOR. IT HAD A BRICK-COLORED JACUZZI IN THE MAIN ROOM & SOME VERY STYLISH DRAPES & BEDSPREAD & WAS EXQUISITELY DECORATED. IT CAME COMPLETE WITH COMPLIMENTARY WINE & HBO, & A MORNING NEWSPAPER, & A SMALL BOX OF CHOCOLATES.

WE HAD A GREAT TIME. FOR DINNER WE BOUGHT SOME SANDWICHES AT A NEARBY DELI & SOME WINE & CHEESE. WE ~~WAS~~ ATE IN BED WHILE WATCHING TV & HAD A FUN EVENING BEING GOOFY & WALLOWING IN THE JACUZZI.

10-19-85

NO MILES

UNFORTUNATELY, OUR FLING CAME TO AN END AT NOON TODAY & I WAS SUPPOSED TO GET BACK ON THE ROAD AFTER WE CHECKED OUT, BUT

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8710

DECIDED TO STAY ANOTHER NIGHT AT THE HOSTEL - MAINLY BECAUSE I HATED TO THINK ABOUT CYCLING THROUGH ARLINGTON, VA BECAUSE OF ALL THE LIMITED ACCESS ROADS.

AS MAUREEN PUT IT, "CABIN FEVER" FINALLY CAUGHT UP WITH US TODAY. ALL OF OUR CONSTANT TOGETHERNESS FINALLY TOOK ITS TOLL & CAUSED TODAY TO HAVE A FEW UPS & DOWNS.

UNFORTUNATELY, TODAY HAS ENDED UP ON A DOWN NOTE WITH SOME PRETTY CONFUSED FEELINGS, AT LEAST ON MY PART. BUT IT'S BEEN A GOOD DAY ANYWAY. WE VISITED THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS TOGETHER & PASSED BY THE SUPREME COURT.

WE STOPPED BY THE PAVILION AT THE OLD POST OFFICE & HAD DINNER. I HAD A COMBINATION DINNER AT AN INDIAN RESTAURANT & I COULDN'T BEGIN TO REMEMBER WHAT ALL THE THINGS I ATE WERE CALLED, BUT AT LEAST I LIKED EVERYTHING WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF A TURNOVER-LIKE THING THAT WAS MADE FROM SOME SORT OF BEAN MEAL & HAD CHICK PENS & A BIT OF SPICE IN IT. AND IT WASN'T BAD, IT WAS JUST VERY BLAND.

10-20-85

50 mi

IT WAS A FAIRLY EMOTIONAL FAREWELL BETWEEN MAUREEN & ^{ME}. WE LEFT ANY DECISION ABOUT POSSIBLY

(8770)

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SEEING EACH OTHER, BEFORE I LEAVE FOR EUROPE, IN THE AIR. THAT'S GOOD SINCE I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT ROUTE I'LL TAKE OR EVEN WHERE I'LL END UP.

AFTER TALKING TO A JAPANESE CYCLIST & A COURE FROM QUÉBEC I'VE DECIDED TO RIDE ALONG THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY = SKYLINE DRIVE TO GREAT SMOKEY Mtn. NAT'L PARK. ^(IN LIEU OF RIDING WITH THEM) OF COURSE IF THE WEATHER GETS NASTY I'LL BAIL OUT & HEAD FOR THE COAST.

I CYCLED PAST MANASSAS NAT'L BATTLEFIELD TODAY & HAD A LOOK. IT WAS THE SITE OF THE BATTLES OF BULL RUN WHICH I CAN REMEMBER GIVING AN ORAL REPORT ON IN JUNIOR HIGH. OF COURSE I DIDN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING ABOUT IT, BUT IN A NUTSHELL IT WAS THE SITE OF TWO UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS BY THE NORTH TO CAPTURE THE CONFEDERATE CAPITOL OF RICHMOND, VA.

A BIT DOWN THE ROAD SOMEBODY ^(IN A CAR) PULLED OVER & STOOD BESIDE THE ROAD WAITING FOR ME TO GET CLOSER. AT FIRST I THOUGHT IT WAS SOMEONE WANTING DIRECTIONS, YET IT TURNED OUT TO BE A PERSON BY THE NAME OF GAYLE RAINBOW WHO INVITED ME TO SPEND THE NIGHT WITH HER & GOMER PYLES. I ALMOST SAID 'NO', BUT REALIZED THAT IT WOULD BE A PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO SET THINGS UP FOR THE NEXT DAY: JEAN-YVES?

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(8770)

DIANE (THE COURE FROM QUÉBEC) WOULD BE AHEAD OF ME ON SKYLINE DRIVE & THE JAPANESE CYCLIST (HIS NAME SOUNDED LIKE SSS-TUMO) WOULD BE BEHIND ME, THUS INCREASING THE LIKELIHOOD OF RUNNING INTO EITHER OF THEM IN A DAY OR TWO. IT ALSO WOULD HELP ME DEAL WITH THE EMOTIONAL TORMOIL OF BEING ALONE AGAIN (I HAD SPENT A FAIR AMOUNT OF THE DAY BROODING OVER MAUREEN).

IT TURNED OUT TO BE A GREAT CHOICE. GOMER & GAYLE HIKE ACROSS AMERICA IN '80 & '81 WITH THEIR DAUGHTER JAMIE WHO WAS ABOUT SIX MONTHS OLD AT THE TIME, SO IT'S BEEN AN INTERESTING EVENING HEARING OF THEIR EXPERIENCES & OF DISCOVERING THE PARALLELS BETWEEN THEIR TRIP & MINE.

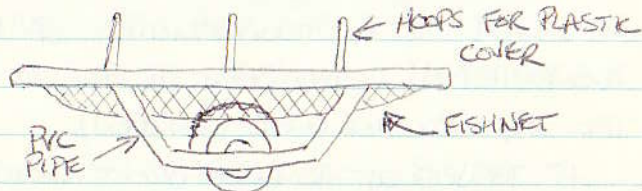
JAMIE SURE HASN'T SUFFERED FROM SPENDING MOST OF HER FIRST TWO YEARS ON THE ROAD. SHE'S SIX NOW & IS INDEPENDENT ENOUGH TO HAVE DRAWN ME A PICTURE OF THE HOUSE & YARD AS A PRESENT.

YOU SHOULD SEE ~~THE~~ WHERE THESE GUYS LIVE, TOO! IT'S A HUGE ESTATE WITH A NUMBER OF HOUSES ON IT, JUST BELOW THE BLUE RIDGE NEAR THE TOWN OF THE PLAINS. IT'S THE PROPERTY OF THE COMPANY THEY WORK FOR & THEY ARE TENANTS;

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THE SCENERY & VIEWS ARE INCREDIBLE.

ON THEIR HIKE THEY CARRIED ALMOST ALL THEIR BELONGINGS & JAMIE IN A HOMEMADE KIND OF WHEELBARROW CONTRAPTION MADE OF PVC PIPE WITH FISHNET LASHED IN THE MIDDLE, & AN INGENUOUS CONASTOGA-STYLE PLASTIC COVER ON TOP:



THE ENTIRE THING WEIGHED UP TO 250 LBS AT TIMES WITH BABY, WET DIAPERS DRYING OUT, & SIX GALLONS OF WATER (48 LBS), & FOOD FOR A WEEK OR TWO. IT WAS ABOUT 2 1/2' WIDE X 8' LONG.

(10-21-85)

(25mi)

I SHOULD HAVE STAYED WITH GOMER & GAYLE FOR ANOTHER NIGHT. IT'S BEEN YOUR BASIC OREGON NON-STOP RAIN SINCE I LEFT D.C. & IT WON'T BE ANY FUN CAMPING TONIGHT.

I MET THREE YOUNG CYCLISTS RIGHT AFTER I LEFT THE PLAINS WHO WERE HEADED FOR SHERENDDAH, BUT THEY SEEMED TO BE UNINTERESTED IN ACQUIRING ANOTHER TRAVELLING COMPANION SO I PRESSED ON AHEAD OF THEM.

IT'S BEEN HARD TO FIND THE MOTIVATION TO KEEP CYCLING THROUGH THE COLD RAIN, AS MY

152 (8795)

MILEAGE FOR THE DAY ATTESTS. I STOPPED AT A BURGER KING FOR A FEW MINUTES & STAYED FOR OVER TWO HOURS.

AS I ENTERED SHERENDDAH NAT'L PARK I WAS WARNED NOT TO RIDE ON SKYLINE DRIVE DUE TO DENSE FOG & NOT ENOUGH DAYLIGHT TO GET TO THE CAMPGROUND 22 MILES DOWN THE ROAD. I WAS ALSO TOLD THAT THERE IS A \$2500 FINE FOR 'ROADSIDE CAMPING', BUT SINCE THEY ADDED 'IF YOU'RE CAUGHT' I CHOSE TO PRESS ON.

A COUPLE MILES DOWN THE ROAD I FOUND A SHORT DIRT ROAD & BUSHWACKED ABOUT 200' ~~PAST~~ PAST ITS END & SET UP CAMP.

I MADE THE MISTAKE OF NOT ZIPPING MY BIVY SACK ALL THE WAY ACROSS & HAD A GOOD SIZED PUDDLE DRAIN INTO MY SLEEPING BAG WHEN I ROLLED OVER ONTO MY SIDE. THAT DIDN'T AMOUNT TO EVEN A MINOR INCONVENIENCE COMPARED TO THE BUCKETS OF WATER THAT CONDENSED OR LEAKED INTO ~~POOLS~~ COLD POOLS ON THE DOWNHILL SIDE OF THE ~~SACK~~ SACK. MY SLEEPING BAG & ALL MY CLOTHES WERE AT TIMES COMPLETELY SOAKED, THOUGH MY CLOTHES WERE LITTLE MORE THAN DAMP MOST OF THE TIME.

(8830)

153

10-22-85

35mi

FIVE MONTHS ON THE ROAD. THE RAIN WAS SUPPOSED TO EASE UP TODAY, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE IT'LL BE WITH ME 'TIL AT LEAST TONIGHT. I'VE GOT ABOUT A 40 MILE RIDE THROUGH STEEP HILLS TO GET TO THE NEAREST LAUNDROMAT SOUTH OF HERE, SO I'M CONSIDERING DOUBLING BACK TO FRONT ROYAL & DRYING OUT & BUYING SOME ROPE TO MAKE A TARP OUT OF MY GROUND CLOTH SO I WILL BE MORE COMFORTABLE THIS EVENING.

I DID GO BACK TO FRONT ROYAL TO DRY OUT MY GEAR & GET REORGANIZED. IT TOOK SIX QUARTERS TO GET MY SLEEPING BAG REASONABLY DRY.

I FINISHED UP AT THE LAUNDROMAT AT A LITTLE PAST 3:00 PM & DECIDED TO TRY FOR THE CAMPGROUND AT MATTHEWS ARM, ABOUT 25 MILES AWAY. I HAD MET THE THREE YOUNG CYCLISTS ON MY WAY BACK INTO TOWN & I THOUGHT I'D SEE IF I COULD SHARE A CAMPSITE WITH THEM. TO MY SURPRISE, I REACHED THE CAMPGROUND AT THE SAME TIME THEY DID, THOUGH THEY STARTED FIVE MILES CLOSER TO CAMP & TWO HOURS SOONER.

WE WERE ALL EXTREMELY COLD WHEN WE FINALLY GOT TO OUR CAMPSITE. I INTENTIONALLY WAS WEARING

(53) (8830)

ONLY RAINWEAR & NO INSULATING CLOTHING UNDER-NEATH IN ORDER TO KEEP AS MANY CLOTHES DRY AS LONG AS POSSIBLE & THINKS ~~COLD~~^{NOT} PRETTY CHILLY WHENEVER I'D STOP PEDALLING.

I MENTIONED I MET THESE GUYS YESTERDAY & FELT UNWELCOME. I'M SURE I KNOW WHY NOW - THERE ARE THREE OF THEM: ^{ONE} SWISS, ONE FRENCH & ONE FRENCH CANADIAN. I THINK THE FRENCH CANADIAN IS O.D.'ING ON MALE HORMONES. HE HAS ALL THE SYMPTOMS OF YOUR CLASSIC HARRY HAIR-CHEST: WHEN EVERYONE IS COLD, HE ISN'T; WHEN WE WANT ONE SITE, HE WANTS ANOTHER. AND OF COURSE I'M A THREAT TO HIS 'AUTHORITY' SINCE THE OTHER TWO TAKE IT FOR GRANTED THAT I'M MORE SENSIBLE & TEND TO MIMIC WHAT I DO. BUT I'M TRYING TO STAY OUT OF ALL THAT - ALL I WANT IS A CHEAP CAMPSITE.

IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE THE TRAUMA I EXPERIENCED IN THE RAIN LAST NIGHT, I'VE SUSPENDED MY TARP BETWEEN THE PICNIC TABLE & MY BIKE WHICH I'VE LEANED AGAINST A TREE. IT ~~COVERS~~^{SHELTERS} AT LEAST HALF OF MY BIVY FROM THE RAIN & MAKES IT COMFORTABLE TO SIT UP & EAT OR READ SO IT SHOULD WORK OUT WELL. THE ONLY PROBLEM IS THAT I NEED TO DRAIN THE WATER OFF IT OCCASIONALLY.

(8870)

154

10-23-85

40mi

MY TARP SET-UP WORKED FAIRLY WELL AT KEEPING ME DRY & HAPPY. THE ONLY THING THAT WENT WRONG WAS WHEN I LAID MY RAIN PARKA OVER THE FOOT OF THE BIVY IN HOPES OF GIVING ADDED PROTECTION. INSTEAD, THE BIVY LEAKED WHERE THE PARKA MADE CONTACT & THE BOTTOM 18" OF MY SLEEPING BAG GOT SOAKED. AT LEAST IT'S ONLY ABOUT 20-25 MILES TO THE NEXT LAUNDROMAT.

THE RAIN STILL HASN'T CLEARED AS SCHEDULED. I'M THINKING OF LEAVING THE PARK AT WAYNESBORO OR POSSIBLY A BIT FARTHER SOUTH TO RETURN TO LONGER HOURS OF DAYLIGHT & A GREATER CHANCE OF GOOD WEATHER. EVERYTHING ON SKYLINE DRIVE & THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY IS CLOSED AFTER OCT. 27, SO I'LL HAVE TO GET OFF BY THEN OR FINDING FOOD & WATER WILL BECOME A PROBLEM.

IT'S HARD TO DO MUCH CYCLING WHEN YOU SPEND MOST OF YOUR TIME SITTING IN A LAUNDROMAT, SO I FEEL TODAY WAS FAIRLY PRODUCTIVE EVEN THOUGH THE MILEAGE DOESN'T SHOW IT.

THE WEATHER FORECAST DOESN'T SHOW ANY HOPE OF CLEARING FOR A COUPLE DAYS, SO I'M

155

8940

HEADIN' EAST TOMORROW MORNING SO I CAN AT LEAST GET OUT OF THE FOG.

I'M CAMPING IN THE WOODS ABOUT FIVE MILES NORTH OF SWIFT RUN GAP. IT'S REAL FOGGY, BUT THE RAIN IS NEGLIGIBLE, SO HOPEFULLY I WON'T SPEND THE AFTERNOON IN THE LAUNDROMAT & PERHAPS I'LL DO 70-80 MILES FOR A CHANGE.

10-24-85

70mi

YET ANOTHER DAY OF SOGGY SLEEPING. WHEN I FIRST BEDDED DOWN LAST NIGHT THE RAIN HAD STOPPED & ALL I HAD TO WORRY ABOUT WAS WATER DRIPPING FROM THE SURROUNDING TREES. BUT THAT DIDN'T LAST - BEFORE LONG THE RAIN WAS POURING DOWN & I WAS AWARE OF NUMEROUS LEAKS: AT SEAMS, ALONG THE ZIPPER & AT THE TOP OF THE BIVY WHERE IT HAD BECOME DIRTY FROM MY LEANING THERE WHILE READING, ETC...

LUCKILY I HAD A FAIRLY FLAT CAMPSITE & I DIDN'T EXPERIENCE THE TOTAL SATURATION AT THE FOOT OF MY SLEEPING BAG THAT I HAD THE LAST COUPLE OF NIGHTS. INSTEAD IT WAS EVENLY SOGGY, THOUGH NOT REALLY UNCOMFORTABLE, ~~THE~~ THROUGHOUT THE LENGTH OF THE BAG.

IF I'M LUCKY ENOUGH NOT TO GET RAINED ON TONIGHT, TODAY MAY BE MY LAST TRIP TO A LAUNDROMAT FOR A WHILE. IF THE FORECAST IS

(8995) (156)

THE ENTIRE EAST COAST IS DUE FOR EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD WEATHER THIS WEEKEND.

IT FEELS GOOD TO HAVE FINALLY GOTTEN SOME MILES IN. THE PAST FEW DAYS ON SKYLINE DRIVE OF RIDING IN THE FOG, CLIMBING HILLS, GETTING COLD & WET, & THEN DRYING OUT AGAIN WERE NOT MUCH FUN.

IT'S BEEN DRY VIRTUALLY ALL DAY & REMARKABLY WARM IN SPITE OF THE THICK CLOUDS. TOMORROW IS SUPPOSED TO BE CLEAR & JUST A BIT WARMER.

IT SEEMS AS THOUGH I'LL BE ABLE TO GET ON THE ROAD ~~BEFORE~~ BEFORE 9:00AM NOW THAT I'M FAR ENOUGH SOUTH. IN THE LAST MONTH I'VE RARELY GOTTEN ON THE ROAD ANY SOONER THAN 9:30AM.

I'M CAMPING ABOUT THREE MILES WEST OF MONTPELIER, VA IN A CLUMP OF TREES AT THE EDGE OF A FALLOW FIELD, FEEDING A SMALL GROUP OF MOSQUITOES (WARM WEATHER HAS ITS TRADE-OFFS).

(10-25-85)

(55mi)

FINALLY, A BEAUTIFUL DAY. SO MUCH FOR A POSSIBLE RESEARCH PROJECT ON THE ARCHITECTURAL SUBTLETIES OF BACK-ROAD VIRGINIA LAUNDROMATS! NOT MUCH HAPPENED TODAY. MY GOAL WAS TO

(157) (9035)

GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE COLONIAL NATIONAL HIST. PARK THAT I GET THERE BY NOON TOMORROW & I SHOULD MAKE IT WITHOUT ANY PROBLEM.

I'M CAMPING IN THE WOODS AGAIN ABOUT FOUR MILES WEST OF BARRHAMSVILLE, VA, LESS THAN 25 MILES FROM WILLIAMSBURG.

I BOUGHT A BOOK DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY ENTITLED "SOUL MATES" ABOUT ~~THE~~ THE COMPATIBILITY OF COUPLES BASED ON 'PAST LIFE EXPERIENCES', A TYPE OF REINCARNATION OR BELIEF IN A CONTINUOUS LIFE. MAUREEN SEEMED TO BE VERY INTERESTED IN THE IDEA, SO WHEN I PASSED THE BOOKSTAND IN THE SUPERMARKET THE TITLE SORT OF REACHED OUT & GRABBED ME. SO FAR IT SEEMS AS THOUGH IT JUST A MYSTICAL WAY OF SAYING THAT PEOPLE WHO LIKE THE SAME THINGS & HAVE THE SAME BELIEFS WILL LIKE EACH OTHER, THOUGH IT'S ~~WRITTEN~~ WRITTEN TO SOUND MUCH MORE PROFOUND & SPIRITUAL. I'VE STOPPED EARLY TODAY TO FINISH THE BOOK & SEE IF THERE'S ANY MORE BASIS TO THE CLAIMS THEY MAKE THAN WHAT THEY'VE ALREADY SAID.

(10-26-85)

(40mi)

ANOTHER LAZY DAY. HAVING NICE WEATHER & NO DEADLINES IS REALLY SLOWING ME DOWN, BUT THAT'S O.K.. AS LONG AS I REACH

(9095)

158

10,000 MILES & SIX MONTHS ON THE ROAD BY THE TIME I STOP FOR THE WINTER ILL BE HAPPY. IF THE WEATHER STAYS WARM & SUNNY ILL PROBABLY ONLY RIDE HALF-DAYS (MAYBE 30-35 MILES) THE WHOLE TIME IM IN CAPE HATTERAS NATL PARK.

I WAS GOING TO TAKE A LOOK AROUND WILLIAMSBURG TODAY, BUT WHEN I DISCOVERED IT COST \$19 TO GO THROUGH ALL THE BUILDINGS I DECIDED NOT TO. PERHAPS SOME OTHER DAY WHEN MONEY IS UNLIMITED.

I DID GO TO JAMESTOWN, THOUGH. THE RINGER WAS GOOD ENOUGH TO LET ME IN FOR FREE (I SAVED 50¢!) & SO I SAW THE GLASS BLOWING DEMONSTRATION & THE RUINS OF JAMESTOWN & SOAKED IN A BIT OF HISTORY.

I TOOK A FERRY (I THINK THE 16th SO FAR) ACROSS THE JAMES RIVER & ROPE A MILE OR SO PAST BACON'S CASTLE & CAMPED ONCE AGAIN IN THE WOODS.

(10.27.85)

(60m)

A SORT OF BORING DAY, WHICH WAS GOOD. TRYING TO RIDE THROUGH THE SUFFOLK-NORFOLK AREA WOULD HAVE BEEN A BITCH WITH A LOT OF TRAFFIC. AS IT WAS, IT WAS MERELY FLAT & BORING.

I GUESS THE BIG EVENT TODAY WAS MAKING

158

(9095)

IT TO NORTH CAROLINA, WHICH IS NO BIG DEAL.

IVE GOT A SUNBURNED FACE AS A RESULT OF THE SUN & HEADWINDS TODAY. IM HOPING TO TAKE A LITTLE TIME WHILE ON THE OUTER BANKS TO OVEREXPOSE THE REST OF MY BODY IF THE SUN STAYS OUT. I MIGHT AS WELL GET A HEADSTART ON BEING A PARTTIME BEACH BUM WHILE IN FLORIDA.

IM CAMPING IN A PRETTY SHITTY SPOT A COUPLE OF MILES SOUTH OF THE BORDER. I WANTED TO STOP EARLY & DO A BIT OF READING & SINCE IT GETS PRETTY BUILT UP ABOUT FIVE MILES SOUTH OF HERE I DECIDED TO GO FOR A SORRY THING RATHER THAN PEDAL ON. IM SANDWICHED BETWEEN THE HIGHWAY & THE RAILROAD TRACKS IN SOME THORN INFESTED WOODS, ONCE AGAIN FEEDING THE SKREETERS.

I TOOK TIME TO CALCULATE MY EXPENSES, & IM SPENDING ABOUT \$17⁰⁰ A DAY, OR AROUND \$2700 SO FAR. THAT'S NOT BAD CONSIDERING MY BIKE WILL BE ALMOST COMPLETELY OVERHAULED BEFORE I REACH EUROPE. EVEN WITH MY AIRFARE TO EUROPE & HAVING TO BUY A FEW MORE BIKE PARTS, A LONG SLEEVED WOOL SHIRT (TO REPLACE MY FLANNEL SHIRT), A NEW ROL SHIRT, & A PAIR OF

(1165) (151)

POLYPROPYLENE SWEAT PANTS I SHOULD MAKE IT TO LONDON ON LESS THAN THE \$20/DAY I HAD BUDGETED.

(10-28-85)

(70 mi)

ONE NICE THING ABOUT SLEEPING IN A BIVY SACK - THERE IS NO END TO THE UN-DESIRABLE & UNCOMFORTABLE SITUATIONS THAT YOU GET SUBJECTED TO. IT MAKES SLEEPING IN A ONE MAN TENT SEEM LIKE A NIGHT IN A LUXURY HOTEL IN COMPARISON.

I'm IN A BIT OF A SURLY MOOD RIGHT NOW, FOR IN ADDITION TO TRYING TO SLEEP IN A BIVY SACK IN A WIND THAT I WOULD GUESS IS KICKING UP OVER 30 MPH RIGHT NOW (& BLOWING BLOODY SAND INTO EVERYTHING), I'VE HAD TO PAY \$8 FOR THE PRIVILEGE.

THERE ISN'T ANY HOT WATER HERE (AT OREGON INLET CAMPGROUND, ABOUT 10 MILES SOUTH OF NAG'S HEAD, NC) SO TAKING A SHOWER IN A BREEZY BUILDING IN THIS WIND WAS DEFINITELY ENOUGH TO CUT-OFF YOUR BLOOD CIRCULATION, BUT I'D BEEN LAZY & HADN'T HAD A SHOWER IN FIVE DAYS SO IT WAS WORTH THE DISCOMFORT.

ON NIGHTS LIKE TONIGHT IT WOULD SURE BE NICE IF ~~THE~~ THIS BIVY COULD BE STAKED DOWN. WHEN I FIRST GOT IT OUT OF THE STUFF SACK

- IT WANTED TO TAKE OFF LIKE A KITE & IT WAS A BITCH GETTING THE SLEEPING BAG & MY MAPS & JOURNAL & BOOK INSIDE BEFORE CARRYING EVERYTHING OVER TO THE CAMPING AREA. IT WAS JUST AS FRUSTRATING AN EXPERIENCE TRYING TO GET UNDRESSED WITHOUT THE BIVY & EVERYTHING IN IT TRYING TO BLOW AWAY.

OF COURSE IT WAS NO BIG RELIEF TO BE INSIDE, EITHER. ONE SIDE WAS CONSTANTLY COLLAPSED BY THE WIND & AS YOU ROLL OVER AWAY FROM THE WIND IT WOULD HUG YOUR BODY & IN ORDER TO ROLL BACK OVER YOU'D HAVE TO FIGHT & CUSS TO DO SO.

I HAD TO STOP WRITING EARLY LAST NIGHT BECAUSE I RAN OUT OF DAYLIGHT & THE BATTERIES IN MY HEADLAMP ARE DEAD.

EVER TRY MAKING A SANDWICH IN HIGH WINDS WITH YOUR LOAF OF BREAD TRYING TO BLOW AWAY & HAVING YOUR CHICKEN SALAD SANDBLASTED AT THE SAME TIME? GO AHEAD & TRY IT, BUT YOU WON'T LIKE IT!

IT WAS A FAIRLY INTERESTING DAY ON THE WAY TO THE CAMPGROUND TODAY. I HAD WINDS BLASTING ME FROM ABEAM FOR MOST OF THE MORNING,

THOUGH THEY WERE QUARTERING ASTERN WHEN I HEADED DUE SOUTH, SO I MADE PRETTY GOOD TIME.

I HAD TO CROSS A BRIDGE BETWEEN THE MAINLAND & BODIE ISLAND (WHICH I'M ON NOW) WHICH HAD MY HEART THUMPIN'. I HAD TO PEDAL DEAD INTO THE WIND & WAS BEING JERKED AROUND PRETTY GOOD - TRAFFIC PASSING TOO CLOSE ON ONE SIDE & A CONCRETE WALL TRYING TO COLLIDE WITH ME ON THE OTHER. IT TOOK NEARLY A HALF HOUR OF HARD PEDALING TO GET ACROSS & IT LOOKS AS THOUGH I'VE GOT AN EVEN MORE PLEASANT EXPERIENCE WAITING FOR ME A HALF MILE DOWN THE ROAD IN THE FORM OF THE BRIDGE TO HATTERAS ISLAND. MAYBE THE TRAFFIC WILL BE LIGHT?

I STOPPED AT KITTY HAWK & SAW THE WRIGHT BROTHER MEMORIAL. IT WAS A KICK TO SEE ALL THE BICYCLE COMPONENTS THEY USED TO BUILD ^{THEIR PLANES} ~~THE~~. I'M SORRY I DIDN'T CHECK TO FIND OUT IF THEIR OLD BICYCLE SHOP IN DAYTON, OH WAS STILL AROUND WHEN I PASSED THROUGH IN AUGUST.

I WOKE UP FROM TIME TO TIME LAST NIGHT TO CHECK ON MY BIKE SINCE I HADN'T LOCKED IT & THE FULL MOON WAS INCREDIBLE! YOU

COULD SEE ANYTHING SHORT OF THE PRINT IN A BOOK IN PERFECT DETAIL. IT WAS SO BRIGHT THAT IT DROWNED OUT ABOUT 90% OF THE STARS IN THE SKY.

This is part of a series of **seven** handwritten journals maintained by Steve Malone during a year and a half of bicycle touring solo throughout North America and Western Europe in 1985 and 1986.

A list of names found in **Volume 3** of this set of journals:

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Merrell Calloway | 13. Leah Overman | 25. Don Vogel |
| 2. Alex MacIntosh | 14. Sylvie Grondin | 26. Fred Vogel |
| 3. Professor Wilcox | 15. Randy Triana | 27. Thelma Vogel |
| 4. Ray Dries | 16. Mike Karch | 28. Robert Schurr |
| 5. Doug Sensennig | 17. Ann Symonds | 29. Betty Schurr |
| 6. Jenny Bell | 18. Robert Malone | 30. Ian Austen |
| 7. Travis Hodgdon | 19. Rose Malone | 31. Maureen Maart |
| 8. Julia Hodgdon | 20. Mike Malone | 32. Maureen Malone |
| 9. Casey Hodgdon | 21. Cheryl Malone | 33. Jaimie Pyles |
| 10. Trish Hodgdon | 22. Gomer Pyles | |
| 11. Kevin Pennock | 23. Gail Rainbow | |
| 12. Mary Malone | 24. Diane Martin | |